

Fountain Valley School District
Superintendent's Office

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10055 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

May 12, 2009

MINUTES

President Pat Harney called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:35p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The following board members were present:

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Pat Harney	President
Mrs. Judy Edwards	Clerk
Mrs. Christine Allcorn	Member
Mr. Ian Collins	Member

Not yet arrived:

Mr. Tony McCombs	President Pro Tem
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Mrs. Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Harney noted the Addendum to the agenda, requesting approval for the change to item #2: Adoption of Final Certificated Layoff Decision and Authorize Notices of Layoff Before May 15, 2009:

The attached revised memo includes clarification of the Superintendent's recommendation to the Board of Trustees in regard to the adoption of the Final Certificated Layoff Decision.

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve the board meeting agenda with addendum.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Second: Mrs. Edwards

Vote: 4-0

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

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

CLOSED SESSION

- Personnel Matters: *Government Code 54957 and 54957.1*
Appointment/Assignment/Promotion of employees; employee discipline/dismissal/release; evaluation of employee

performance; complaints/charges against an employee; other personnel matters

Deputy Superintendent Barry Blade will address the Board regarding the ALJ proposed decision.

- Public Employee Performance Evaluation: *Government Code Section 54957 & 54957.1*
The Board will meet in closed session to discuss the annual performance evaluation of the superintendent
- Negotiations: *Government Code 54957.6*
Update and review of negotiations with CSEA Bargaining Unit with the Board's designated representatives, Barry Blade, Rosemary Eadie and Ross Hessler

Note: Mr. McCombs arrived to the meeting at 5:40pm

The public portion of the meeting resumed at 7:01pm

STUDY SESSION

President Harney began the study session by asking the Board to look at items #1, 7, 8 and 14 on the Potential Budget Reduction list. She asked the Board if there was any objection to directing staff to include these items in the budget for the 2009-10 school year. Regarding each of these items, there were no objections and so staff could go forward with building items 1, 7, 8 and 14 into the budget for the 2009-10 school year. Mrs. Harney reminded the Board that item #14 was a negotiable item. **STUDY SESSION**

Mr McCombs asked Dr. Blade where the District was at in terms of the amount needed to be cut when considering the May 19th election.

Dr. Blade explained that the District still needs to cut \$2.1 million.

Mrs. Edwards asked Dr. Blade if this amount was prior to what happens after the May revise.

Dr. Blade clarified that most likely it will get worse and the shortfall in the budget will exceed the stimulus money.

Mr. Collins noted that the Board and the District needs to be conservative with its decisions, especially if the May 19th election is a failure.

Mrs. Harney confirmed that items# 1, 7, 8 and 14 could be built into

the 2009-10 budget at this time and the Board agreed.

Mrs. Harney then directed the Board to look at the Tier III Categorical Transfers and explained that in the past the District was unable to move these funds, but now the District has greater flexibility.

Mr. Collins asked Mrs. Eadie if she had any reservations as to how these would impact the construction of programs, for instance the beginning teacher program. He asked if she had any second thoughts on how these would effect instruction.

Mrs. Eadie explained that she did not have any second thoughts. She explained that there is \$20,000 budgeted for beginning teachers still in the program and that it is highly doubtful that we would have any additional new teachers. She explained that ELA textbooks are currently covered with a small cushion to cover a potential increase in enrollment. She explained that we have had several teachers already trained in GATE and that this training can continue in the classroom despite having a bare bones program. She also explained that yes, because of the transfers, the SLIP program would look a lot different than it does this year.

Mrs. Allcorn asked for clarification as to how items #6 and 14 relate and if they cross over.

Mrs. Eadie explained that presently each school has a SLIP clerk to coordinate the SLIP budget. The changes in the SLIP program negate the further need for this position at each site.

Mr. Collins, given the reassurance of Mrs. Eadie, stated that he would like to keep items #1-6 on the reduction list.

The Board agreed

Dr. Ecker noted that of the almost \$170,000 in the SLIP transfer, \$143,000 is personnel related.

Mrs. Harney noted that regarding items #4 and 12, a decision by the Board does not need to be made tonight. She explained that the Board could discuss these items and then wait until after the May 19th election and the availability of more information before reaching a final decision. She explained that we do not know how the stimulus money will be used and if we will need to backfill programs. She said that given all of the ifs, the Board may not want to decide this evening.

Mr. Collins noted that there was some initial discussion at the April

23rd Board meeting on the Literacy Program. He said that this is a program and that if we can afford to keep it, it goes to the heart of the district and how are students can achieve. He said that a decision on CSR may be a little premature at this point until we know more.

Mrs. Edwards agreed.

Mr. McCombs noted the flexibility on the CSR program but agreed that until we know more regarding the revenues coming in, it may be too early to decide.

Mrs. Harney noted that the Board has information from staff regarding the different scenarios on CSR. She said that with the election results in hand, the Board will tacked the CSR Program and Literacy Program decisions at the May 21st Board meeting.

Mrs. Edwards thanked Dr. Blade for his complete report on CSR.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Allcorn visited Oka and Plavan and noted how difficult the budget discussions are given the great many things going on at our schools. She attended the OCSBA dinner where Mrs. Edwards received the Marian Bergeson Award. She congratulated Mrs. Edwards on this great achievement. Mrs. Allcorn also attended the ACSA dinner and saw Mrs. Eadie receive the Administrator of the Year award. She also congratulated Mrs. Eadie on this accomplishment.

BOARD REPORTS

Mrs. Edwards thanked the Board for their support and for her nomination and recognition as a Marian Bergeson recipient.

Mr. Collins commended those named this evening, Mrs. Eadie, Mr. Burkart and Mrs. Abdel and noted that they will be a great addition to those positions. He attended the pancake breakfast at Talbert as well as the Tamura National Junior Honors Society event recognizing students with outstanding achievement. He noted what a wonderful achievement this is for each of the students honored.

Mr. McCombs congratulated Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Eadie for their honors and congratulated Mrs. Eadie, Mr. Burkart and Mrs. Abdel on their new roles.

Mrs. Harney congratulated Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Eadie on their honors and recognitions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Four people were present to address the Board.
A Fountain Valley School District employee addressed the Board regarding potential reduction of grounds staff by one position. He disagreed with the potential cutting of a grounds position while the mower position was still to be kept.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A parent addressed the Board regarding the potential budget reductions and stressed the importance of the Literacy Program in helping Fountain Valley School District students' test scores and the district as a whole. She also expressed the need for the Board to adopt a policy on asthma to safeguard and protect our students and assist substitutes with identify asthmatic students.

A parent addressed the Board regarding the potential cut to the Literacy Program and the CSR program as a part of the budget reductions. She asked the Board to carefully think about their decision regarding these items. She noted that although her daughter does not need the Literacy Program, she does benefit from the extra attention from her teacher when the Literacy Program participants are out of class and would continue to do so given the potential changes to the CSR program.

A Fountain Valley School District employee addressed the Board regarding the potential cut to the grounds staff by one position. He also noted CSEA's agreement to reduce their work year by two days for the 2009-10 year in order to potentially help save positions within Fountain Valley School District.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to approve the adoption of final layoff decision and authorize the superintendent or designee to give notices of layoff before May 15, 2009.

**ADOPTION OF FINAL
CERTIFICATED LAYOFF
DECISION**

Second: Mrs. Edwards

Mrs. Allcorn noted that she hoped that circumstances would change and that the district would be able to use the stimulus money or other means to save some great teachers. She noted that this is very difficult and is keeping the Board up at night and is not the reason why someone becomes a Board member.

Mrs. Harney noted that this is something that the Board has to do tonight, although it is not something that they want to do and they do

hope that they will be able to save some jobs if the resolutions pass. The Board does need to continue to do business though.

Mr. Collins complimented CSEA and the good job done with negotiations. The sacrifice of two work days is extraordinary and has not gone unnoticed.

Mrs. Harney noted that as a result of these two days we may be able to save some jobs on the 21st.

Vote: Unanimously approved

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to approve the Consent Calendar.

CONSENT
CALENDAR/ROUTINE
ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Second: Mr. McCombs

Mrs. Harney called attention to item #3C to express appreciation for the Classified staff. She said that they are terrific and work very hard and the Board loves them.

Vote: Unanimously approved

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board minutes from the board meeting on April 23, 2009
- Personnel Items
- Approval of Resolution 2009-25: May 18-22, 2009 Fountain Valley School District's Classified Employee Week
- Approval of Legal Services Provided By Law Offices of Caroline A. Zuk Fee Reduction

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to address the board.

NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Dr. Ecker Congratulated Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Eadie on their distinguished honors. He also noted that the district is fortunate to have Mrs. Eadie, Mr. Burkart and Mrs. Abdel stepping into their new roles and congratulated them on their appointments. He thanked Dr. Blade and Mrs. Edwards for their work and noted what a difficult

NEW ITEMS OF
BUSINESS

thing it will be for the district to loose them.

Dr. Ecker Commended the sacrifice of CSEA. He noted that no one employee is more important than another in the district and their action could help to save jobs. He noted that not one teacher could say that they could do their job without the classified, confidential, psychologists and management staff. He noted that CSEA is setting an outstanding model and he is grateful to the leadership and membership. He noted that such sacrifice does not happen very often and it takes courage to make such decisions.

Dr. Ecker Noted that we are in a period of great uncertainty and the prognosis does not look positive. The deficit is at \$20 billion and the state could potentially run out of money by the end of July according to some reports. If this is true and the state can not secure loans, there could be additional cuts and the \$2.1 million the district is currently considering could be more. He noted that all we can do is to be fiscally conservative and protect Fountain Valley School District. WE are dependent upon Sacramento and it is our children that are impacted. He thanked the Board for working through all of this and said he is hopeful more information will come and will allow more more certainty.

Mr. Collins Commended Mrs. Bains and Mrs. Eadie on their handling of the closure and opening of Moiola school. He complemented them both on their leadership.

Dr. Ecker Commended Mrs. Bains, Mrs. Eadie and Mrs. McCombs and the Moiola staff for their work.

Mr. McCombs Noted that while many saw Mrs. Bains in front of the camera, there was a lot of coordination and work that went on behind the scenes, starting early Sunday evening. He commended Mrs. Bains for staying on top of the information and communicating with OCDE and the school community.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm.

Second: Mr. McCombs

Vote: Unanimously approved

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