

Fountain Valley School District
Superintendent's Office

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10055 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

April 15, 2010

MINUTES

President Tony McCombs called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:03pm. **CALL TO ORDER**

The following board members were present: **ROLL CALL**

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. Tony McCombs | President |
| Mrs. Judy Edwards | President Pro Tem |
| Mr. Ian Collins | Clerk |
| Mrs. Christine Allcorn | Member |
| Mrs. Nicola Weiss | Member |

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to approve the meeting agenda **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Second: Mr. Collins

Vote: 5-0

There were no requests to address the Board prior to closed session. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. McCombs announced that the Board would retire into closed session. Action was not 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
- Negotiations: *Government Code 54957.6*
Update and review of negotiations with CSEA and FVEA Bargaining Unit with the Board's designated representative, Mrs. Rosemary Eadie.
- Property Negotiations: *Government Code 54956.8*
Real property negotiator Paul Burkart and legal counsel Andreas Chialtas will speak to the board about the negotiations concerning the properties at 9191 Pioneer and 10251 Yorktown Avenue,

Huntington Beach, CA.

- 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

The public portion of the meeting resumed at 7:07pm.

Webelos Pack 567 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

It is an interest of the Board of Trustees to recognize students who display high achievement, improvement or extraordinary effort. The Board recognized six outstanding students from Tamura School. From Tamura School, the board recognized Emma Nolte (K), Jordynn Peshke (1st), Benjamin Tran (2nd), Michelle Cone (3rd), Taylor Nguyen (4th), Shawn Soria (5th). Ms. Adams, Tamura School principal, commended each of these students on their hard work. Family and staff members were also present to honor these students.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS FROM TAMURA SCHOOL

It is an interest of the Board of Trustees to recognize outstanding parent volunteers who give generously of their time and talents to our schools. From Tamura School, the Board recognized and thanked Kristin Davis and Marlene Weinberger.

RECOGNITION OF PARENT VOLUNTEERS FROM TAMURA SCHOOL

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees held a public hearing on the request for waiver of competitive bidding procedures for Lamb and Wardlow properties. There were no requests to address the board and the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR REQUEST OF WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURES FOR LAMB AND WARDLOW PROPERTIES

STUDY SESSION

Mr. Burkart reviewed the list of proposed budget reductions and highlighted those items that had been revised or added since the original proposed list of reductions was presented to the Board at the March 11, 2010 meeting. The revisions/additions included the reduction by only 50% (instead of 100%) of extra days for School Administrative Assistants; reorganization of the Business Office, reduction by only 50% (instead of 100%) of the position of AV Technician; reorganization of the maintenance

STUDY SESSION ON 2010-11 BUDGET

department; elimination of District support of the Music program with the reduction of expenditures and increase of fees and participation to allow the program to run self-sufficiently; elimination of support of the Beckman/hands-on science program with the maintenance of the program coming from grants and fees; and elimination of typewriter maintenance.

Regarding the current proposed reduction list, Mr. Collins noted that after the Board was able to listen to the feedback from the community regarding the music program, he feels that this current proposal is a nice compromise and one that he hopes will work out.

Mr. McCombs noted that the hands-on science program is an excellent one that our students greatly benefit from. He appreciated the revisions in the current proposed to keep this program through grants and fees and hopes that this works out. Mr. Collins agreed that it is a wonderful program and the students learn a great deal from it.

Mr. Collins asked regarding the reduction to conference account whether this would still allow the district's Cotsen mentors to have leave time for observations. Mr. Burkart explained that the funding for this comes directly from Cotsen and would not be affected by the reduction to conference accounts.

Mrs. Allcorn asked for clarification on the district's warehouse and that given her understanding that each school does their own supply ordering, if there was any room for cost savings there. Mr. Burkart explained that this was an area that he looked at for savings but that there are none available. The warehouse supplies the district in three areas: paper, janitorial supplies and health supplies, all of which must be ordered in bulk off of bid and then are distributed to the sites. The rest of the supplies used do go directly to the sites for delivery. The warehouse is maintained by one person that works there part time in addition to delivering mail. This full time employee's other salary half is covered by the cafeteria fund for the delivering of food to sites that he also does. To Mrs. Edwards' question on the type of paper stored there, Mr. Burkart explained that it is all types from printing to color paper to tag board.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that looking at the list; she wanted to assure the audience and the community that the board is aware that the titles of jobs to be lost represent real people with families and that this is terrible. She noted that the proposed furlough days are money out of someone's pocket. She noted her appreciation for the staff for all that they have done to put together the list of

proposed cuts in order to put together a solution and also her appreciation for the community and staff for their input and ideas on solutions. She explained that it is no easy decision and that the Board knows there are real people that are to be affected. She noted that with not much else to cut, the Board is trying its best. Dr. Ecker agreed that the Board is getting to the point that there is not much else that can be cut outside of salaries and benefits. He noted that the \$3 million in cuts proposed this evening are a balanced attempt at a solution with \$1 million in cuts to programs, \$1 million in Tier III transfer and \$1 million in furlough days that involve staff salaries. He noted that it is a balanced approach but one that each part is critical in order to get to the goal. He explained that these are painful decisions but ones that all districts are being forced to go through. He explained that over the last month, staff has solicited input from the community and staff and are now at the point that they do need consensus from the Board on moving in this direction. He explained that it is a balanced approach but none the less painful.

Mr. Collins expressed that it is a sad state of affairs when the State does not provide for the education of our students. He noted that the State is falling further and further behind and that many groups within the district and surrounding districts have gone to Sacramento to talk to our legislators to show the passion we have for our children. He explained that our teachers continue to do a great job and our students continue to perform well but wondered how long this will be able to go on. He noted the difficulty of continuing this.

Mr. McCombs noted that at the Community Information meeting held the previous evening parents shared their concerns during this very difficult time. He noted that the Board has been looking at salary for two years now, noting that there have not been raises and the furloughs taken by two of the three groups within the District. He explained that the Board is looking at ways to solve this problem that aren't perpetuated down the road for staff. He noted that salary is a large percentage of the District's overall budget and the Board is at the point where it does not have anywhere else to turn. He noted that funding for districts is disproportionate and Fountain Valley School District is at the bottom of funding. He noted that some districts have even had to discuss permanent salary cuts.

Mr. McCombs asked the Board if there was consensus on the current proposed list. Mrs. Edwards agreed, stating that the Board did not have any choice. Mrs. Allcorn noted that if by some chance the district is able to find some additional money, she would like to see the cuts to the libraries moved off of the

list. Mr. Burkart explained that if there are changes after the May revise that change the cuts needed, he will bring the figure back to the board for them to discuss. Mrs. Weiss noted that if the board does not have to cut as much that she would like to see those programs that do not affect the students and sites to be looked at. She noted that the teachers and the kids are those that need the most support. She agreed to the list of cuts as proposed.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Weiss visited Oka School and noted how impressed she is with the site and its staff. She also attended the FVEF meeting as well as enjoyed Open House at Courreges. She also enjoyed hearing back from the community at the Community Information meeting last night and was pleased to hear that it seems that the parents understand what the district is doing to solve the problems with the budget.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Allcorn attended the play at Plavan Oz! and very much enjoyed it. She noted the great things that they do with kids and really enjoyed it. She attended the Legislative Reception and found it very interesting. She commended Mayor Crandall for the wonderful job that he did with the evening. She also enjoyed the middle school choir performance, the Community Information meeting and the Sacramento Safari. She also attended Open House at Tamura and was very pleased, noting that it was fabulous.

Mrs. Collins attended the St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the District Office. He also enjoyed the Monster Concert and noted how wonderful it is to see the sequence of outstanding performances presented. He enjoyed the choir concert and was amazed at the outstanding talent involved. He also attended the Sacramento Safari and was dismayed at how our legislation works. He noted wanting to see more passion from our legislators in regards to education and the future for our kids. He also attended several Foundation lunches regarding corporate donation solicitations and noted that FVEF is looking for every source of support. And he attended Open House at Gisler, the ACE committee meeting, the Legislative Reception as well as enjoying the Plavan play, Oz!

Mrs. Edwards visited Oka and attended two Mayor's Breakfasts since the last board meeting, both of which she found very interesting. She enjoyed the Monster Concert as well as Open House at both Gisler and Plavan. She noted how amazing both schools were and was very pleased with the presentations in each

classroom. She attended the Legislative Reception and also was pleased with the turn out for the Community Information meeting.

Mr. McCombs attended the Legislative Reception, which he found interesting. He was also impressed with the Community Information meeting and the turnout from the parent community. He thought it was a good crowd. He attended Open House at Oka and very much enjoyed it. He also enjoyed the St. Patrick’s Day luncheon at the District Office. And he attended the OC Sherrif’s Medal of Valour ceremony and was very much impressed with the recipients, their accomplishments and the amazing requirements to which they were measured against.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were 5 requests to address the Board.

The Talbert Librarian and a parent in the district spoke to the Board regarding cuts to the libraries. She emphasized the negative effects these cuts would have on the district’s students.

A 2nd grade teacher from Oka spoke to the Board about the reduction of the Computer Lab Aides. He noted the difficulties that this cut would present for students and staff.

A Gisler parent spoke to the Board about the potential cuts to the hands-on science program, urging the Board to come up with a solution that would work for not just this next year but many years to come.

A Fulton student addressed the Board regarding the cuts to the libraries and expressed the great positive impact that the libraries have had on her education.

A parent addressed the Board on the potential library cuts and passed on the feedback of several past middle school students who enjoyed the positive effects of time in the Fountain Valley School District libraries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to adopt Resolution 2010-24: Request for Waiver of Competitive Bidding Procedures For Lamb and Wardlow Properties.

Second: Mrs. Allcorn

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve the Consent

**RESOLUTION 2010-24:
REQUEST FOR WAIVER
OF COMPETITIVE
BIDDING PROCEDURES
FOR LAMB AND
WARDLOW PROPERTIES**

CONSENT

Calendar/Routine Items of Business

CALENDAR/ROUTINE
ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Second: Mrs. Weiss

Vote: 5-0

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board Meeting Minutes from March 11th meeting
 - Personnel Items
 - Donations
 - Warrant Registers
 - Purchase Order Listing
 - Budget Transfers
 - Agreement with School Services of California
 - Revision to Board Policy 4040: Employee use of Technology/Acceptable Use Policy (Second Reading and Adoption)
 - Revision to Board Policy 6162.6: Use of Copyrighted Materials (Second Reading and Adoption)
 - Revision to Board Policy 6162.7: Use of Technology in Instruction (Second Reading and Adoption)
 - Revision to Board Policy 6163.4: Student Use of Technology/Acceptable Use Policy (Second Reading and Adoption)
 - English Language Acquisition Program Application for Funding 2010-11
 - Declaration of Need
 - Williams Quarterly Report for Third Quarter 2009-10
 - Start Date for Students for the 2010-11 School Year
 - Waiver request – Title I, Part A ARRA
 - Reimbursement for Special Education Services
 - Non-public Agency Contracts (Board Members Only)
- | Non-Public School/Agency | 100% Contract Cost | Effective Dates |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Therapeutic Education Centers | \$22,050 | 1/27/10 to 6/30/10 |

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to address the board.

NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Mrs. Edwards Noted that the decisions regarding the budget reductions are not easy ones for the Board and that it has become harder and harder to do each year. She noted that the Board does reserve the right to reinstate a number of things is extra money is found.

- Mr. Collins Thanked Mr. Burkart for his presentation both tonight and the previous evening at the Community Information meeting. He commended him for putting everything into laymen's terms and presenting in such an outstanding manner. He noted the possible good news that the revenues received in the State may be higher than projected.
- Mrs. Allcorn Noted the importance of writing letters and reaching out to our legislators to let them know how the parent community feels about the cuts to education. She urged the audience to make their voices heard.
- Mrs. Weiss Agreed and echoed Mrs. Allcorn's frustrations with the cuts to education.
- Mr. McCombs Noted the hope that the revenues received by the State are indeed higher than projected and that the May revised offers some improvements
- Dr. Ecker Thanked Mr. Burkart for his presentation and noted that it is not easy to put together solutions and this process in addition to make it transparent for the community. He appreciated Mr. Burkart's responses to all of the questions and suggestions.
- Dr. Ecker Thanked Ms. Hansen for her creation of the flyer that has been used in many forms to let our parents and community know about the impacts the cuts from Sacramento have had on the District.
- Dr. Ecker Noted the large group that attended the Community Information meeting and thought that meeting did offer those present the opportunity to see how the District has been affected. He noted that if the current proposed cuts do go into effect, parents in the District will be affected greatly with increased fees and shared costs. He noted the need to let the legislators know this and to be sure that our voices are heard.
- Dr. Ecker Thanked Carla Neeld and the Foundation for

their heroic efforts for the district over the past years. He noted the importance of all of our parent community supporting the Foundation through a donation as little as \$10.

Dr. Ecker Thanked Susie Crandall for her help in the plans to secure grants for the hands-on science program for the next year and many to follow. He noted the importance of STEM education in our elementary schools.

Dr. Ecker Noted his own personal enjoyment of books, as he was reminded of again today when reading *Charlotte's Web* to some Gisler students. He noted that the pleasure of walking into a library and seeing the reaction of students is good testimony to the importance of our libraries and is something that should be communicated to our legislators.

Following this, at 8:54pm, Mr. McCombs announced that the Board would retire into a second closed session.

SECOND CLOSED SESSION

The public portion of the meeting again resumed at 9pm. Mr. McCombs read the following announcement regarding closed session action:

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

“In closed session, the Board of Trustees took action directing district staff to notify a teacher, employee #2678 on temporary contract, of release from district employment pursuant to Education Code section 44929.21.”

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02pm.

Second: Mrs. Weiss

Vote: Unanimously approved

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