

Fountain Valley School District
Superintendent's Office

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10055 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

July 21, 2011

MINUTES

President Judy Edwards called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:00pm. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

Mrs. Judy Edwards	President
Mr. Ian Collins	President Pro Tem
Christine Allcorn	Clerk
Sandra Crandall	Member
Jimmy Templin	Member

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to approve the meeting agenda. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Second: Mr. Templin

Vote: 5-0

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

Mr. Edwards announced that the Board would retire into Closed Session. Action was 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 the FVEA and CSEA Bargaining Units with the Board's designated representative, Mrs. Cathie Abdel.
- Property Negotiations: *Government Code 54956.8*
Real property negotiator Marc Ecker 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.

The public portion of the meeting resumed at 7:32pm.

Mrs. Abdel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE
CLOSED SESSION
ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Allcorn made the following Closed Session announcement:

The Board met with legal counsel in Closed Session and discussed the Lamb and Wardlow properties. The Board gave direction to legal counsel with respect to further negotiations, and gave authority to the Superintendent to enter into an amendment to the Purchase and Sale Agreement to modify the purchase price, provided said price is within the range of the negotiation authority provided to counsel.

Motion: Mr. Collins

Second: Mrs. Allcorn

Vote: 5-0

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held for the purpose of discussing the State Testing Apportionment Information Report Waiver proposal for the Fountain Valley School District. Public input was welcomed. There were no requests to address the Board and the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR
STATE TESTING
APPORTIONMENT
INFORMATION REPORT
WAIVER

STUDY SESSION

The Board conducted a study session for the purpose of discussing the proposed 2011-12 District Goals.

STUDY SESSION ON
2011-12 PROPOSED
DISTRICT GOALS

Ms. Silavs began by explaining that the Instruction Division Goals were developed in concert with Mrs. Eadie prior to her retirement and that many are a continuation of the goals from 2010-11. She reviewed each of the Instruction goals and strategies with the Board.

Regarding the first goal, Standards and Accountability, strategy one, Mrs. Crandall asked what portions of Illuminate are implemented already and which will be implemented, for example the grade book functions. Ms. Silavs explained that last

year Cox piloted the grade book and report card functions and during the Staff Development days on September 1st and 2nd, management is looking forward to sharing more about these functions with staff. Mrs. Crandall asked about the web cam function as well and whether or not there were plans to purchase these for the sites as well. Ms. Silavs and Dr. Hoefler explained that these have been acquired for some schools while there are some technical issues with getting them at every school at this time. And finally Mrs. Crandall asked about the Parent Portal and whether or not this is something that we will have in our district. Ms. Silavs explained that this is the intent and that they will be meeting with the Illuminate staff to see all that can be implemented in the District. Mrs. Crandall noted that she is pleased to see that the implementation of this new program has been well thought out and is supported.

Regarding strategy two, Mrs. Crandall noted that six of eight of our elementary schools have had the Cotsen program. She expressed her interest in seeing these sites participating in the alumni program. Dr. Ecker noted that as Cotsen is only a two year program, thus the alumni program is critical after program completion. He noted that he can see massaging this strategy to include the Cotsen alumni program but that also he is not sure the limitations on the district in participating. Mrs. Crandall noted that it takes the initiative of the schools. Ms. Silavs explained that we can definitely look into this for those sites.

Regarding strategy three, Mrs. Crandall noted that two ambitious goals have been combined into this and questioned whether or not there might be an advantage to separating these two out. Ms. Silavs noted that this is a good suggestion. Mrs. Allcorn noted that when the midyear reports come out, it can be reported back which portions were achieved. Dr. Ecker agreed that these could be kept together and still reported back on.

Mrs. Allcorn asked regarding strategy two and the Cotsen model being an elementary model whether there are plans to adapt this for use at the middle schools. Ms. Silavs noted that it is more looking at the model of the program and then using this at all of the schools. Dr. Ecker noted that what makes Cotsen powerful for this district and others is the funding of staff development opportunities, substitutes and unfortunately it is not funded for middle schools. The realistic situation of these goals is that there are serious limitations on funds. Mr. Collins noted that sometimes middle school educators see themselves as separate but if there is an opportunity to be exposed to portions of the program and sit down with those alumni for idea sharing it can be very helpful.

Regarding goal two, Teaching and Learning, strategy five, Mrs. Allcorn asked if there are any plans to expand the current pilot program. Dr. Ecker noted that based upon the midyear report on the pilot program the Board may be in a better position to decide whether or not to continue the program and decide to possibly expand the program. Ms. Silavs noted that as a Transitional Kindergarten program, we will be required to continue it so if there are any concerns we can address at the midyear time how best to correct them.

Mr. Templin asked regarding strategy six how the schools participating were chosen. Ms. Silavs explained that these schools applied to participate.

Regarding the implementation of DIBELS, strategy one of goal 2 and strategy three of goal one, Mrs. Crandall noted the importance of making sure that DIBELS is being used by everyone given that it is only the second year that it is in the district. She also noted that if there are any holes in what DIBELS reports, as an ELA benchmark assessment there is still a chance to go back to the older assessments to bring everything together and ensure that all is being reported.

Regarding RtI, Mrs. Crandall noted that from the monthly reports of the principals that the sites are at different levels with this program and she commended Ms. Silavs for keeping this as a goal. Regarding strategy four, the Community Volunteer Academy, she also noted her appreciation for the expansion and the addition of new presenters.

Regarding strategy six and PBIS, Mrs. Crandall noted that all of the funding for this will be gone and noted that it seems that all of the release time and the materials needed except for the rubber wristbands were taken care of while the funding was there the first year and so the program should work just fine in her opinion.

Regarding the Visual and Performing Arts program, strategy seven, Mrs. Crandall questioned whether the student fee proposal in the State will affect this. Mrs. Allcorn noted that these events are all after school. Dr. Ecker agreed that in speaking with the County regarding this, it is our understanding that those activities outside of the school day are within the structure of the new student fees.

Mr. Collins commended the District for its emphasis on the performing arts and noted the success of the programs. He noted that so many other districts cut these programs due to financial reasons but he is glad to see these programs still here in the district.

Regarding goal three, Staff Development, strategy one, Mrs. Crandall asked who would identify the areas of need, BTSA professional standards model or other. Ms. Silavs explained that

yes this is part of it in addition to typical needs of new teachers starting in the classroom, acclimating to the district, DIBELS, and help them with management issues and reporting. Mrs. Crandall noted her interest in seeing training in “time on task” incorporated into this strategy to make up for lost instructional days.

Regarding strategy two, Mrs. Crandall asked how this would be done in terms of staff development. Ms. Silavs explained that in working with the district’s arts coordinator, Bridget Gersi, they can establish the best means to make this happen, including looking at using some of the time in the six staff development days at the beginning of the year. Training on the art kits is a priority.

Regarding the Medallion program and strategy four, Mrs. Crandall noted her interest in seeing a district-wide writing program and was pleased to see that Ms. Silavs is taking a close look at this. Regarding the training, she asked whether the trainings would be conducted in the same manner as last year. Ms. Silavs explained that there will be an in-service during the management retreat on the Medallion program and then additional plans are in place to expand this training for the teachers and principals beyond the materials and more on how they support the broader goals.

Dr. Ecker noted that the district does work in concert with the BTSA program and with the County in terms of the identified needs of new teachers and noted that there is ongoing communication with the principals and these new teachers. A lot is covered under the BTSA program.

He also explained that regarding a district-wide writing program, writing is so critical and we are currently trying to get our hands around what our strategy should be in terms of district-wide versus site by site and what would be the best for the district. Many have been tried over the past, some more successful than others. Ms. Silavs explained that in the coming year the teachers will be working to implement the new Medallion program, where the teacher materials have been revised to meet the new State requirements for ELA but the student books stay the same, allowing us to purchase these at such a reduced cost. Mrs. Edwards asked whether or not we have been putting together new prompts each year for the writing assessment. Ms. Silavs explained that there are writing prompts that we have but according the MOU there was some adjustments to that for the middle schools.

Mr. Collins noted his understanding of and asked for Dr. Ecker’s confirmation that the board’s role is to set the goals for the district while it is the role of management to say how those goals will be accomplished. He asked if it is the role of the board to suggest

how goals are accomplished. Dr. Ecker explained that the goals in front of the board and the strategies intended to implement them are presented to the board not so much so that the board may wordsmith them, but so that the board can come together in a general consensus on these goals. This way if the board disagrees with the goals or a strategy they can express this. The goals are generated by the senior staff while the interests are generated by the Board. Before management starts the task of implementing the goals, they look to the board for their input so that prior to ratifying the goals, the board can review and provide input.

Dr. Ecker asked if there was consensus on the goals so far. The board agreed that there was. He noted his understanding there should be an addition to goal one regarding the need to increase participation in the Cotsen alumni program and the addition of BTSA in goal number two.

Mrs. Abdel reviewed the Human Resources goals and strategies with the Board.

Mr. Collins commended the inclusion of the site administrators in the screening process for positions both at the sites and at the District Office noting that these administrators are at the heart of the district. Mrs. Allcorn noted that with 5000 applications they can definitely use the help. Mr. Templin agreed that administrative involvement in screening is important.

Mrs. Crandall asked whether any research had been done into making sure that all levels of applications can be done online.

Mrs. Abdel noted that this was something she would need to look into in the future.

Dr. Ecker noted the potential inclusion of demonstration lessons in the teacher selection process.

Mrs. Crandall noted that given all of the discussion throughout the State regarding teacher evaluations, it will be amazing to see all of the change in this area. She noted that there is a huge amount of information out there for Mrs. Abdel's review.

Dr. Ecker noted that regarding principal involvement in the screening process it is indeed very important that they are very involved. Regarding strategy two and teacher evaluations, he explained that this is a negotiable item that he has discussed with the FVEA president. He noted that there is nothing more important than everyone being held accountable for professional services, regardless of position. He explained that when the State gets around to agreement on the new ESEA reauthorization he believes we will see a component included regarding data driven evaluations. He explained that whatever our district can do to

move the ball forward toward this here will be beneficial. Mr. Collins commended the inclusion of consistency in the language, noting teacher appreciation for consistency and fairness in administrative policy.

The board agreed that there was consensus on the Human Resource goals.

Dr. Ecker reviewed the Business Division goals and strategies with the Board.

In reviewing goal six, Dr. Ecker noted that the district has a terrific Maintenance and Operations system. He also commended Transportation Director Jim Sobraska noting that not one complaint regarding transportation came to his office this past year. He also commended the district's technology department noting the new management under Supervisor Frank Pitoniak. He also commended Gary Ron and Joe Hastie on their work this year. Mr. Collins noted that when adopting new programs that require technology, it is important that the technology is actually available in order for the programs to be successful. Regarding strategy seven, Dr. Ecker noted that the district has endured over \$7 million in cuts and including the cuts to benefits and salaries for employees, the total is near \$10 million. Mr. Templin asked whether or not the Endowment Fund mentioned in strategy five is the same as Fund 40. Dr. Ecker explained that the goal is to use this in the future as an Endowment Fund whereas unfortunately, currently it is not. Mr. Collins commended the inclusion of the blueprint in the goals and noted that this is something that the Board would like to see. Dr. Ecker noted that nothing is too small to save.

The board agreed that there was general consensus on the Business Division goals.

Mrs. Edwards explained Mr. Collins' interest in moving the development of the Board Interests to February in order to better align with the development of the district's budget. Mr. Collins noted that CSBA also supports this idea. Mrs. Edwards also explained that in the past the Board has put in no more than five interests and in general they are global interests, some not always attainable in a single year.

STUDY SESSION ON
BOARD INTERESTS FOR
2011-12

Mrs. Edwards noted that for quite some time there has been an interest included to support the Foundation and that at this time it may be a foregone conclusion that the Foundation has the Board's

support. Mr. Collins agreed but also stated that there may be a change in the way that things are done in the Foundation. He noted that it might be beneficial to have a report back to the Board of the positive changes in the Foundation. He expressed his interest in seeing more business members included on the Foundation Board. Mrs. Allcorn noted that it could be that symbolic interest for the Board. She noted her concern of the potential message if this were taken off of the list. Mrs. Edwards noted that the other district committees that were consolidated into one interest last year.

Mrs. Crandall expressed her interest in seeing the District's profile raised in the community so that when the support of the community at large is needed, the 86% without children in the district, they understand our mission and goals. Mrs. Allcorn noted that this is similar to the current interest number four and asked if she was just looking for this to be rewritten. Mrs. Crandall noted her interest in seeing greater board presence at community events like the Chamber of Commerce luncheon and similar events in order to raise board presence outside of those events covered in *School News* which is sent out to a select group, more of broader base picture. Mrs. Allcorn explained that while she doesn't think that there is a bad relationship between the city and the district, she expressed her frustration with certain events like the music festival in the city that now has a similar name, Fountain Valley Live, to the district's music fundraiser, Fountain Valley Music Live and the Fountain Valley Educational Foundation in the district versus the Fountain Valley Community Foundation. Mrs. Crandall explained that she was not speaking specifically of the city as an entity but instead all of the different groups within Fountain Valley. She noted her interest in seeing some way to increase the district's profile within the community so that when the district needs the community's support it is there. Mrs. Allcorn noted her interest in seeing a better relationship with the city as well. Dr. Ecker noted from his listening of the conversation the issue of the district's profile and how it is looked upon by a majority of the city. He noted that the district does a good job; people want to be here, but that the percentage of the people that we communicate with is the 14% that have students in the district. He noted the possible need to consult with a marketing firm or come up with a plan ourselves to raise the district's profile with the other 86%. He agreed that our presence at these events can help but that it is more than that. He noted that for the 86%, the schools are liked but that they are not aware of the actual going-ons of the district. Mrs. Allcorn and Mrs. Edwards agreed that perhaps a marketing campaign would be a good idea.

Mrs. Allcorn asked Dr. Ecker what the progress was on our Hyundai grant and if perhaps another interest would be to look for additional grants. She noted that perhaps with the new senior management staff there is more time to seek out additional grants to meet additional needs. Dr. Ecker explained that we have not yet received a response yet. Mrs. Crandall explained that Hyundai is moving their facilities temporarily to Irvine. Dr. Ecker noted that he would reach out again for a response. Mrs. Crandall agreed with Mrs. Allcorn on the interest to search out more grants.

Mrs. Crandall expressed her interest in seeing the district continue a three-year budget forecast. She noted that with the new budget bill, the requirement has reduced the forecasting requirement to a one-year only certification, overseen by the County Offices of Education. Dr. Ecker noted that if the County continues to provide the resources required to do a three-year forecast, the Board could establish this as an interest; it would be difficult to do without the software provided. He noted that most districts feel it should be three years. Mrs. Norman explained that it is a best business practice to have three years forecasted. Mr. Collins asked how realistic it is for the district to meet its forecast in the third year. Mrs. Norman noted that they do monitor this continuously and the current and second years are very good while the third year is more of an estimate and based on what the district thinks is going to happen. Dr. Ecker noted that because of Fund 40 it is easier for the district to meet its third year goals. He noted that we currently have competing goals with one being to maintain the district's Endowment Fund but the other is to keep the district solvent three years out.

Mrs. Crandall noted her interest in seeing a district-wide character education program. Mrs. Edwards noted that there are already such programs at several levels. Mrs. Allcorn noted that such a program exists currently at Talbert. Mrs. Edwards noted Plavan as well. Mrs. Abdel noted that there an element of this as a part of the PBIS grant as well.

Mrs. Crandall also noted her interest in seeing the reading specialists reinstated in the district. Mrs. Edwards noted when this program was cut that all agreed that this was a high priority. Dr. Ecker explained that the cost of the program was about \$500,000 and an extremely painful cut but one that was a high priority to bring back. He explained that until funding is available from the State, he is not sure how realistic it is to include this as an interest when we are not sure when funds will be available again and it has already been noted that it is a top priority to return.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that regarding the character education

program, that perhaps we can highlight more our current character education programs and have the staff participating share back with the board as it is something of high value. She noted that maybe a little more information might help with this to see what improvements can be made or if it is currently working as is. Mrs. Abdel noted that Talbert, Masuda and Fulton have teachers that participated in the ICE grant that includes a character element. Some teachers have gone off with it more than others. Mr. Templin noted his agreement with bringing the reading specialists back and noted that regarding interest three, the importance of bringing more money back into the district, there is a large amount of money lost due to student absences. He noted his interest in educating our parents on the revenue lost because of absences. Mr. Collins agreed suggesting that perhaps this could be included in principal newsletters, perhaps more than once. Dr. Ecker noted that each site does include this in their newsletters. Mr. Templin noted that we do have around 97% attendance but it is amazing what impact the lost fund from the 3% has.

Dr. Ecker summarized the current interests discussed including a changing of the timeline for developing board interests to February, marketing to the 86%, aggressive action towards applying for grants to the extent that our resources allow, adherence to best practices in financial management and keeping strategy three with the magnet programs. He also noted the request for a report as to what character education programs exist currently and to continue to strategize with principals how to decrease absenteeism. Mrs. Allcorn noted that there might be opportunity to marketing to the 86% through the Foundation and our current district community groups. He noted that these would be brought back to the board for their further discussion in August.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Templin enjoyed an onsite shooter drill in the district that he works with and noted that it was a fascinating experience that he was able to learn a lot from that perhaps he will be able to share with the board in the future. He noted that he continues to receive emails from the community regarding the school closure committee and he has taken the chance to walk the grounds at four of our elementary sites this summer.

Mrs. Allcorn enjoyed a tour of summer school and noted

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

the many great things happening there. She also attended the Fulton promotion and enjoyed the event very much. She also participated in the foster children event at the Orange County Fair and thought it was wonderful. Mr. Collins noted that he has been enjoying vacation with his family. He also noted that there will be a pancake breakfast at the Fountain Valley Fire Station on July 30th to benefit Zach. He also enjoyed a tour of summer school and thanked Mrs. Abdel for the opportunity.

Mrs. Crandall enjoyed a patriotic performance from many of our district students. She also enjoyed a wonderful tour of the special education summer school as well as the foster children event at the OC Fair. She is also working on a game for the city's concert in the park and is hopeful that it will attract kids and in turn their parents to the event.

Mrs. Edwards noted that she has been enjoying travels in Montana and Idaho since the last board meeting. She also enjoyed a tour of special education summer school.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one request to address the board. A concerned Moiola parent addressed the board regarding Decision Insite.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mrs. Allcorn requested that item 4-B: Minutes from the June 23rd Regular Meeting and item 4-I: Resolution 2012-5 Compensation for Board Clerk Allcorn for a missed meeting due to school business travel be pulled for a separate vote. Mr. Collins requested that item 4-H: Renewal of Board membership in OCSBA for 2011-12 in the amount of \$125 and item 4-X: Middle School Lunch Price Increase be pulled for a separate vote.

CONSENT
CALENDAR/
ROUTINE ITEMS OF
BUSINESS

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of items 4-B, 4-H, 4-I and 4-X.

Second: Mr. Collins

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to approve item 4-B: Minutes from the June 23rd Regular Meeting.

Second: Mr. Templin

Vote: 4-0
1- Abstain (Allcorn)

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve item 4-H: Renewal of Board membership in OCSBA for 2011-12 in the amount of \$125.

Second: Mr. Templin

Mr. Collins noted his amazement at what a bargain it is for the entire board's membership in CSBA. He commended SchoolsFirst for their sponsorship of the dinners. Mrs. Edwards agreed.

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Collins moved to approve item 4-I: Resolution 2012-5 Compensation for Board Clerk Allcorn for a missed meeting due to school business travel.

Second: Mrs. Crandall

Vote: 4-0
1-Abstain (Allcorn)

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve item 4-X: Middle School Lunch Price Increase.

Second: Mr. Templin

Mr. Collins questioned the rationale behind the lunch increase. Mrs. Edwards noted that having sat on the committee it was seen that a lot of middle school students were not eating lunch because they did not like the selections and instead of bringing their own lunch, they were just not eating at all. She explained that in order to bring in the selections that they do like, Subway and El Pollo Loco, Mrs. Sharpe needed to increase the price. Mr. Collins asked if the new price is an awkward amount for parents. Mrs. Allcorn noted that there is a card that parents can purchase, allowing them to prepay and avoid too many quarters. Dr. Ecker noted that for several years the district has not had to do this but that the costs of goods are increasing.

Vote: 5-0

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board Meeting Minutes from June 9th regular meeting
- Board Meeting Minutes from June 23rd regular meeting
- Personnel Items (Employment Functions, Workshops/Conferences, and Consultants)
- Donations
- Warrants
- Purchase Order Listing
- Budget Transfers
- Renewal of Board membership in OCSBA for 2011-12 in the amount of \$125
- Resolution 2012-05: Compensation for Board Clerk Allcorn for a missed meeting due to school business travel
- Renewal of District Membership in the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$319
- Resolution 2012-01: Authorization of Signatures on Replacement Warrants
- Resolution 2012-02: Appointment of Custodian of the Revolving Cash Fund
- Resolution 2012-03: Authorization of Approval of Vendor Claims/Orders
- Resolution 2012-04: Authorization of Signatures
- Resolution 2012-06: Approval of Child Development Contract and Authorization for Signature for State Preschool program
- Annual Review of Investment Policy
- Agreement for Special Services with School Services of California
- Rejection of Claim 449733
- Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report (Quarter #4: April 1 to June 30, 2011)
- Authorization to Rescind Approval of the Financing of School Bus with Daimler Truck Financial and to Approve in its place California First National Bank
- Approval of the Letter of Support for the Pilot of Professional Development Materials Created by Danya International
- Authorization to Use Ocean View School District Dairy Bid (Bid #05-23)
- Authorization to Use San Gabriel Coop Frozen Food Bid Rep#100:07-08
- Middle School Lunch Price Increase
- Record of Eighth Grade Promotion, June 2011

NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- Mrs. Allcorn Noted that with her new job, she will be limited in her participation in SPC so there is a need to shuffle committee assignments amongst the board members.
- Dr. Ecker Welcomed Ms. Silavs and Mrs. Abdel to the dias and noted that at the next meeting the entire senior management team will be here together.
- Dr. Ecker Thanked Mrs. Smith for her address to the board this evening and noted that he would be discussing her comments with Mr. McMahon regarding Decision Insite.
- Mrs. Edwards Thanked Mrs. Abdel and Ms. Silavs for their explanations of the goals this evening during the study session.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion:** Mr. Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm.
- Second:** Mrs. Allcorn
- Vote:** Unanimously approved

/rh