

Fountain Valley School District  
Superintendent's Office

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

10055 Slater Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

**April 26, 2012**

**MINUTES**

President Ian Collins 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

Ian Collins	President
Christine Allcorn	President Pro Tem
Sandra Crandall	Clerk
Jimmy Templin	Member
Judith Edwards	Member

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

**Second:** Mrs. Crandall

**Vote:** 5-0

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Collins 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.
- 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.

- Pupil Personnel: *Education Code 48912(b) and 48918(c)*  
Student Expulsion or other disciplinary matters

The public portion of the meeting resumed at 7:10pm.  
Boy Scout Pack 455 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 was joined by Principal Mr. Miller in recognizing six outstanding students from Oka School. Those students honored for their hard work at Oka School this year included: Zaid Musa (K), Caritina Evans (1<sup>st</sup>), Sofia Lewellyn (2<sup>nd</sup>), Brandon Montiel (3<sup>rd</sup>), Cole Royster (4<sup>th</sup>), Brighton Pauli (5<sup>th</sup>).

RECOGNITION OF  
STUDENTS FROM OKA  
SCHOOL

It is an interest of the Board of Trustees to recognize students who display high achievement, improvement or extraordinary effort. The Board was joined by Principal Mr. Christensen in recognizing seven outstanding students from Courreges School. Those students honored for their hard work at Courreges School this year included: Savannah Nau (K), Olivia Rice (1<sup>st</sup>), Haley Varner (2<sup>nd</sup>), Sonny Davis (2<sup>nd</sup>), Alexandra Regis (3<sup>rd</sup>), Matthew Fee (4<sup>th</sup>), Sylvia Le (5<sup>th</sup>).

RECOGNITION OF  
STUDENTS FROM  
COURREGES 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 Oka School, the Board joined Mr. Miller in recognizing and thanking Shane Holt and Niki Sablan. Members of the Oka PTO and staff were also present to thank these parents for their outstanding contributions to Oka School this year.

RECOGNITION OF OKA  
PARENT VOLUNTEERS

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 Courreges School, the Board joined Mr. Christensen in recognizing and thanking Jim Frederisy and Monica Maytorena. Members of the Courreges PTA and staff were also present to thank these parents for their outstanding contributions to Courreges School this year.

RECOGNITION OF  
COURREGES PARENT  
VOLUNTEERS

Fountain Valley Educational Foundation President Nicola Weiss and Executive Administrator Joanne Lew were joined by

PRESENTATION OF 2012-  
13 EDUCATIONAL

members of the Foundation in awarding its 2012-13 teacher grants to district staff. Grants were awarded to 24 teachers (including teacher teams for grade-level or school wide grants) totaling nearly \$10,000. The grants will be used to purchase a variety of classroom materials to enhance the curricular areas of reading, science, language arts, math, and PE.

## FOUNDATION TEACHER GRANTS

Mr. Templin made the following Closed Session announcement:

## CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

*“Based upon the Board’s review and acceptance of the Administrative Hearing Panel’s findings of facts and recommendation for expulsion, in closed session the governing board took action by a vote of 5 to 0 to suspend the expulsion of Student #6090391664 and to revoke the inter-district transfer to the Fountain Valley School District through the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester of the 2012-13 school year.”*

## STAFF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent, Business Steve McMahon was joined by Lynn Paquin and Ann Nock from George K. Baum in presenting to the Board the viability and process for approval of a bond measure benefiting technology in Fountain Valley School District. Ms. Paquin explained that general obligation (GO) bonds are a mechanism for funding improvements, facilities, modernization, new construction and equipment, and require a 55% voter approval. They may not pay for day-to-day expenditures, but can pay for technology through technology endowment programs. She explained the process and timeline involved. She explained that financing technology with a GO bond is growing in popularity as the establishment of an endowment fund allows district to finance short term purchases with long term repayment. She explained that tax-exempt bond proceeds are deposited into an endowment fund, allowing interest earnings to continue to support technology needs. Funds from a GO bond can be used to purchase handheld tablets, computers, smart boards, printers, network equipment and fund the salary of IT staff during the initial setup and implementation. Funds cannot be used to purchase software, equipment insurance, staff training or ongoing staff salaries. Ms. Nock explained that the district’s tax base has remained stable even during the economic downturn, signaling strong home values and a built out community. She explained that the bonding capacity is \$80 million, 1.25% of the District’s assessed valuation. It was estimated that \$15 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation for 25 years could generate approximately \$19.7 million of bonds

## TECHNOLOGY BOND MEASURE PRESENTATION (WRITTEN AND ORAL)

proceeds. All of the bonds would be sold in one year and a majority of the proceeds may be deposited into an endowment fund that earns interest.

Energy Conservation Manager Gregg Millett updated the Board as to the success of the District's Energy Conservation Program since its implementation in September 2008. He explained that since implementation, the District has saved \$816,380 in energy costs and cumulative greenhouse gas reductions of 1,380 equivalent metric tons of CO2 or 248 cars not driven for one year or 35,286 tree seedlings grown for 10 years. He also explained that the district's energy program has applied for and was recently recognized by the EPA as an Energy Star partner. At the same time the district also applied to be an Energy Star 20% Leader, a top performer recognition. We are currently awaiting confirmation that all of our sites will receive Energy Star's label recognition.

**ENERGY  
CONSERVATION  
PROGRAM BOARD  
UPDATE (WRITTEN AND  
ORAL)**

**STUDY SESSION**

The Board of Trustees conducted a study session for the purpose of discussing the development of the 2012-13 Board Interests. Mr. Collins opened the discussion by asking the Board if there were any new interests or if there were any questions on the update of the 2011-12 interests.

**STUDY SESSION ON  
2012-13 BOARD  
INTERESTS**

Mrs. Allcorn noted that in looking at the 2011-12 interests, she thought that there is still possibly more that the district can do with magnet programs and considering the bond presentation this evening, perhaps a STEM magnet program would attract some interest.

Mr. Collins noted that the board should include an interest in having the survey completed to see if a bond is a viable option.

Mrs. Allcorn agreed noting that this would be done at no risk or cost to the district.

Mrs. Edwards agreed noting that she would be in favor of having the survey conducted, noting as well an interest that would look at technology in the district. She explained that after reading Dr. Hoefer's report, she feels the board needs an interest focusing on this.

Mr. Templin noted his feeling that the two need not be tied, indicating a look at technology in the interest but also a desire to have the survey done as well. He noted his belief that the board does not necessarily need to include the survey as an interest as the two are somewhat separate.

Mrs. Edwards agreed noting that technology does need to be

included somewhere.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that if the district pursues the bond and it does not go well, the district can devise other means to fund technology if it is an interest.

Mr. Collins noted his understanding that improving technology is an interest for the board as well as perhaps having the survey for a bond included in the May agenda.

Mrs. Crandall noted that she sees the bond issue as totally separate from the board interests and she explained that she looked at the magnet program interest from this year and wrote it in a two part for next year. She explained that one part would be to support the use of data and technology to individualize instruction and improve students' learning in a cost-effective manner or; acknowledging the importance of technology, support the exploration of learning options which may include a pilot program in one classroom at one school using iPads with a mini-analysis of the workability for the Fountain Valley School District.

Mr. Collins noted that this is already being done to a degree at Courreges as all teachers have iPads funded by their PTA and use them as learning instruments in their classrooms.

Mrs. Crandall noted that it is one thing to push technology out but another to use this as a mini study to see the direction that the district wants to go.

Mrs. Allcorn noted her understanding that Board Interests need to be specific enough to give good focus and direction but general enough to allow staff to develop those programs within it. So while she likes the focus on student learning, she expressed her concern that this may be too narrow and prevent Dr. Hoefer from doing what she needs to do within this interest.

Mrs. Crandall asked what a magnet program in technology would look like.

Mr. Templin noted that he sees the two as separate and that he is unsure that he would want to limit this. He noted that the district should challenge itself to see what other districts are doing. He explained that his two interests are technology and a magnet program. He explained that although we talk of pilot programs with iPads in the classrooms, he is not sure if there is a correlation between a program of this sort and drawing students to the district.

Mr. Collins noted that Board Interests need to be more general and that we need to update the technology in the district, as seen in Dr. Hoefer's report. He noted though that how to go about doing this is up to staff to decide.

Dr. Ecker explained that the initial foray into this is how to deal with next year, given the failure rate of the current district

technology as explained in Dr. Hoefer's report. He noted that staff tried to put together a plan that would get us through next year with our limited resources and they developed a somewhat frugal budget. He noted though that when thinking beyond iPads and mounted projectors and instead to 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms, the goal is defined more as giving teachers and students the ability to access information that is beyond the walls of the classroom, the knowledge of our teachers or the content of our textbooks. He thanked Dr. Hoefer, Mr. Pitoniak, Mr. Sadegh and Mr. Yepiz for their initial research. He explained that the district knew the computers were aging but just not how quickly and even providing just some form of teacher device that would allow them to manage their classrooms comes with a hefty price tag forcing the district to stretch when we consider that 30 machines will die next year. Dr. Ecker explained that although this initial plan is not as likely to cause a paradigm shift, the proposal provided to the Board focuses on changing learning and teaching in 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms and moving into a paradigm shift. He explained that he sees this differently than magnet programs, although magnet programs are something that we can still pursue. Mr. Collins noted that we still need to pursue upgrading technology and we have seen the window of possibility of what we can do. He noted his belief that the board needs to be in concert with the district with an interest and that Mr. Templin's comment was on target regarding separating technology and magnet programs. He noted his agreement with having technology as an interest.

Dr. Ecker noted that he would put wording together for the board. He explained that regarding the board's interest in having the survey completed, if the district is to go forward with this, it will require some resources. He explained that if the survey does show that a bond would not be successful, it will not take away the interest but the district will continue to look for resources and perhaps a different timeline.

Mr. Collins noted that he is still interested in magnet programs, although he is unsure how to see this in an elementary district. Mr. Templin agreed that magnet programs should be included as a board interest but noted as well that the board does not necessarily need to know the magnets at this point. Instead the board would have a unique opportunity to research to see if anything is possible. He noted that there are so many things happening in education now that there are ideas out there. Mrs. Crandall noted for example that some elementary schools provide dual emersion.

Dr. Ecker noted that the board and staff have discussed some of

things that we want to bring to our middle schools, like a middle level ST math program.

Ms. Silavs noted that we are looking at different programs that we could offer that we don't currently offer, like Language 360, enhancing our music program and others to make our district more attractive to families but to also offer opportunities to our students. She noted though that the success of these programs can cause them to be spread to other sites as well.

Mr. Collins noted that the board can eliminate interest 1 from 2011-12 and that the board can continue to do interest 2, supporting of our Foundation.

Dr. Ecker noted that perhaps interest 2 and support of our Foundation has already been institutionalized and is something that we do.

Mrs. Crandall noted that the only shift that we may need to wrap our head around is that currently Fountain Valley Educational Foundation's expenses exceed its income. She noted that keeping relations with groups needs to be on the front burner or we need to brainstorm how to raise funds.

Dr. Ecker noted that if the Foundation can't raise funds for instrumental music, we need to find another source of funding or be forced to cut the program. He asked the board what role they see themselves playing with the Foundation in this.

Mrs. Crandall explained her feeling that we should keep relations open and guide relationships that can assist the Foundation with fundraising and new ideas and possibly a board liaison.

Mr. Collins noted that support for all foundations is down noting that hopefully this will turn around. He noted that we missed a couple of opportunities this year that were established but, there is still an opportunity in the Mr. Fountain Valley event. He noted that the concept can continue but that it is not needed as a board interest.

Mr. Templin noted that he is not opposed to keeping this as an interest.

Mrs. Edwards noted that since she has been on the board, there has always been some interest that revolved around the Foundation. She explained that it is just a reminder that it is an important interest of board.

Mr. Collins agreed and noted that it would be kept as an interest.

Regarding interest 3 and the searching out of grant opportunities for the district, Mr. Collins noted that the district is working with Hyundai and noted his confidence that Ms. Silavs and Dr. Hoefer are always on lookout for anything that becomes available. He noted however that it is a competitive area and one that takes a lot

of time and effort. He suggested that perhaps this is a standard interest that needs to be kept as well.

Mr. Templin noted that during an economic time like this, if a company that doesn't know the district looked at our interests; they would see that we are going for technology and drawing students to district. He noted that there are companies that would work for the district regarding grants. He noted that it makes sense for any district to focus on grants during a time like this.

Dr. Ecker noted that many of our school's base grants, EISS and PBIS grants for example, have been successful.

Ms. Silavs noted that our schools do continue to take advantage of grant opportunities.

Mr. Collins agreed that it should be kept as an interest.

Regarding interest 4 from 2011-12, Mr. Collins noted his belief that it has been met.

Mrs. Edwards noted that we have done this for years.

Mrs. Crandall noted that last year she suggested this interest as she was feeling the move toward shorter terms, two and even 1 year, but she explained that she no longer senses the same climate out there.

In summary, Mr. Collins noted the board's interest in keeping interests 2, 3 and 5 from 2011-12 and adding an interest regarding technology in the district to the 2012-13 board interests. He asked if there were any additional interest that the board would like to consider.

Mrs. Crandall expressed her interest in the board becoming its own professional learning community (PLC), looking at improving its effectiveness and efficiency and perhaps three times a year looking at specific board governance readings together. She noted CSBA's *Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings* as one possible reading with the addition of two others. She noted her interest in increasing learning and the board becoming its own learning community.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that in the past CSBA's Masters in Governance program was a part of the board's interests although now the board cannot afford it. She noted that she liked the idea. Mrs. Templin agreed, asking if Mrs. Crandall saw this as something that would be done in addition to board meetings or during meetings.

Mrs. Crandall explained that the readings would be done individually outside but noted that several boards throughout the State conduct a self-evaluation of the meeting, in public just prior to the close of their meeting. She thought this was an interesting concept.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that when Mr. McCombs was president the



board did conduct a board evaluation based on materials CSBA developed.

Mrs. Edwards agreed noting that this was a one-time occurrence.

Mrs. Crandall noted that she did not envision that discussion of the group readings would take long, perhaps 2-3 minutes.

Mr. Collins noted that he does not object to this idea.

Dr. Ecker noted that we are doing a lot in this district about bringing professionals together, all dedicated to specific teaching and learning strategies, moving staff forward and professional development. He noted that perhaps there are opportunities to extend professional literature, for example learning more about common core and assessment issues, to the board. He noted that the other way to look at this would be a more structured way to look at how the board performs, like a self-evaluation. He explained that it has been a watershed year with a great deal of moving the dial this first year and we have to give the board credit in this.

Dr. Ecker noted that he would work on some wording for the five interests and get this out to board for their review.

## **BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Crandall extended her congratulations to those Courreges and Oka parents and students honored this evening. She also congratulated staff, parents and students for their work on the development of the Single Plan for Student Achievement, noting that she learn a lot of the aggressive goals that each site has established for themselves for next year and loved the way that it was presented. She enjoyed Open House at Plavan, Courreges, Oka, Moiola and Masuda as well as touring Newland and Plavan and attending the Rotary Every Student Succeeding Breakfast. She enjoyed the March Mayor's Breakfast and Rotary Most Improved Student recognitions in March and April. She also noted that the artwork of two Talbert students was displayed on Magnolia Street at the Transit Authority bus stop. She attended two Eagle Scout ceremonies with one choosing to do their project building new benches at Cox School and the other building raised garden boxes at Talbert Middle School. She assisted with the Community Volunteer Academy presentation, noting that it was very consistent with our other offerings with 24 attendees, this presentation focusing on 4-8<sup>th</sup> grades. She also participated in the PBS TV interview on cyber-bullying. She also assisted with student supervision at the Monster Concert, orchestra concert and the vocal music concert. She attended the Foundation meeting and reminded the audience that May 18<sup>th</sup> is the Mr. Fountain

## **BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Valley pageant. She also participated in the Student in Business day, noting that Masuda Middle School participated. She attended the Twilight meeting at the Boys and Girls Club and assisted in the development of a new evaluation instrument for the superintendent with Mr. Collins.

Mr. Templin enjoyed Open House at Courreges and Plavan and enjoyed a tour of the new GiGi Math at Plavan. He also enjoyed tours of their SDC young kindergarteners classrooms. He enjoyed Talbert's Open House including the student entertainment hour. He also enjoyed Open House at Fulton as well as attending the State SELPA where he continues to learn more and more. He also enjoyed the vocal music concert and Moiola's Open House.

Mrs. Edwards passed on her report in the essence of time.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that she misses going to the schools, so it is nice to go to the Open Houses. She attended FVHS's orientation and noted that it was a comprehensive program for our students to attend. She attended the middle school brain teacher presentation and enjoyed the student concerts and open houses.

Mr. Collins was invited to be a guest speaker at Tamura's National Scholar Evening and noted it was great to see. He attended the Sacramento Safari where Molly Munger, Rick Pratt and others spoke. He also attended training on school finance as a part of the Masters in Governance program. He attended the Hyundai event at Segerstrom Center as well as the SPC meeting and participating in the Student in Business Day and Talbert's Pancake Breakfast. He enjoyed visits at Newland, Gisler and Plavan as well as a meeting with the Boy Scouts to assist them in earning their civics badge where they discussed the process of closing a school. He noted that he is the manager of the Foundation's contestant for Mr. Fountain Valley, noting that it will be a fun presentation and encouraged everyone to support it.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no requests to address the Board of Trustees.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

## **LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

<b>Motion:</b>	Mrs. Edwards moved to adopt Resolution 2012-20 in Celebration of May 9, 2012 as California's Day of the Teacher and May 7-11, 2012 as Teacher	<b>RESOLUTION 2012-20: IN CELEBRATION OF MAY 9, 2012 AS</b>
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Appreciation Week.

Second: Mrs. Crandall

Vote: 5-0

CALIFORNIA'S DAY  
OF THE TEACHER  
AND MAY 7-11, 2012  
AS TEACHER  
APPRECIATION  
WEEK

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

Second: Mrs. Allcorn

CONSENT  
CALENDAR/  
ROUTINE ITEMS OF  
BUSINESS

Mrs Crandall noted her pleasure in seeing that the Developer Study will be going out again as it has been four years since our last study. She also noted that she took a look at other public entities and their attorney fees and noted that Chidester and Associates is lower than others.

Mr. Collins noted his pleasure in seeing that the professional development for small group instruction has been continued as it is so valuable. He also explained the Williams Quarterly Report and noted that the District is in great shape.

Vote: 5-0

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board Meeting Minutes from March 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting
- Personnel Items (Employment Functions, Workshops/Conferences, and Consultants)
- Donations
- Warrants
- Purchase Order Listing
- Budget Transfers
- Approval of Williams Quarterly Report For Third Quarter 2011-12
- Approval of Proposal to Update Developer Fee Study
- Approval of Retainer Agreement for Legal Services with Margaret A. Chidester & Associates
- Approval of Agreement for Professional Development in Small Group and Differentiated Instruction
- Approval of Single Plans for Student Achievement
- Adoption of Resolution 2012-19: Authorizing the Formation of a Surplus Property Advisory Committee
- Approval of Notice of Layoff for Classified Positions

## NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Dr. Ecker            Presented to Mr. Collins his completion certificate for CSBA's Masters in Governance Program. He noted that this is a rigorous program and that it is a pleasure to present the completion certificate to Mr. Collins.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:**        Mr. Templin moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:21pm.

**Second:**        Mrs. Allcorn

**Vote:**            Unanimously approved

/rl