

Fountain Valley School District
Superintendent's Office

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10055 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

September 27, 2012

MINUTES

President Ian Collins called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:31pm.

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: Mr. Templin

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. No 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 Steve McMahon 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 7:02pm.
Mrs. Allcorn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving public comment on the tentative agreement between the Fountain Valley School District and CSEA, Chapter #358 for the 2012-13 year. Public input was welcomed. There were no requests to address the board and the hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR
TENTATIVE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN
FVSD AND CSEA,
CHAPTER #358 FOR 2012-
13 YEAR

STAFF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent, Business, Steve McMahon and Director, Fiscal Services, Scott Martin reviewed for the Board of Trustees the unaudited actuals for the Fountain Valley School District for the fiscal year 2011-12. Mr. McMahon reviewed the economic indicators, challenges and risks facing the district and provided a general review of the district budget. He noted positive trends showing that State finances are improving, although everyone is cautious, noting some concern over the election. The tax rate will be increasing at the end of this year including increases in long term capital gains, causing some uneasiness. State employment levels are improving with little change in the Federal rate. All indicators are currently positive including new auto registrations, median home price, single family home sales, and total employment. The trend line for unemployment is down, showing a significant drop in the State, although it is still above our average. He explained that State revenues and estimates are positive and personal income tax is showing positive growth compared to last year, which is encouraging. He explained that revenue per student is currently at \$4972, and will be at \$4493 if the tax measures do not pass. In looking back at where the district should be in annual per student funding versus where we are at, cuts have resulted in a loss of \$36 million to the district over the last five years. Mr. McMahon explained that risks for the district include the passing or failing of the tax proposals, currently at a 50/50 chance; as well as whether or not the State projections are accurate; so far they are. Challenges include planning for a shorter school year, which is already in place in our district; the weighted funding formula

UNAUDITED ACTUALS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-
12 (ORAL AND
WRITTEN)

which has been set aside for the current time; how much longer the district can continue to spend its reserves, estimated at the current rate to be until 2014-15; and mandated costs and transitional Kindergarten, which are currently in place.

Mr. Martin reviewed the unaudited actuals for the district for 2011-12, and noted that revenues budgeted in July 2011 were at \$41.8 million while the actual revenues in June 2012 were at \$44.8 million, a \$3 million increase. The Revenue Limit came in on budget at \$30.9 million, with Revenue Limit funding representing 69% of total revenues; \$6 million of this revenue is being deferred by the State to the 2012-13 school year. Other revenues for the district are Federal, State and local revenues. When looking at what was budgeted in each of these categories, in each instance the actuals exceed what was budgeted, although this is due to deferrals, roll-overs, etc.; no found money, unfortunately. Federal revenues increased due to deferred Ed Jobs revenue of \$1.2 million and some combined special education revenue of about \$600,000 which was deferred. State revenues increased due to slightly more than anticipated Class Size Reduction revenue and some Lottery roll-over revenue totaling approximately \$415,000. Local revenues included donations of more than \$200,000 and redevelopment and lease revenues of about \$200,000 more than expected. Although again he noted that these additional moneys are not a windfall but instead roll-overs, deferrals or money that could not originally be budgeted for, as in the case of donations. When comparing our budget to the actuals for 2011-12, in July 2011 our budget was at \$45.3 million while in June 2012 actuals were at \$46.1 million, an increase of \$800,000. He explained that salaries and benefits represent 88% of 2011-12 actual expenses and as well the most significant portion of the increase in expenses. He noted though that the increase in salaries is not due to additional headcount or raises. He noted that salaries are a moving target throughout the year and budgets are made in April and May. The \$800,000 increase represents only 2% of our overall budget. Our overall variance appears reasonable and is in line with previous years. In looking at the General Fund, Mr. Martin noted that we began with \$4.1 million in the General Fund, total revenues were \$44.8 million and expenses \$46.1, leading to a deficit of \$1.3 million. \$2 million was transferred in, leaving the ending balance of \$4.8 million at the end of the 2011-12 year in the General Fund. Mrs. Crandall noted that the projected budget for 2012-13 included salaries at 87% of the overall budget, leaving therefore 13% of the budget to be spent on paint, textbooks, supplies, etc. She looked at the projected expenses of classified and certificated staff and estimated that next year we may be at 92% of the

overall budget in labor costs. She asked if this amount was due to this being a moving target, as explained, and would it possibly come down. Mr. Martin noted that he would have to research this further. Mrs. Crandall noted that 13% is a challenge to work with while 8% is very difficult. Mrs. Crandall also noted that the projection for property taxes has increased each year, and asked for the source of this estimate. Mr. Martin explained that these figures come from the County Assessor's Office. Mrs. Crandall also noted regarding the special education entitlement amount versus the special education revenue amount, the Federal Government has stated that they reimburse about 40%, although by her calculations they are reimbursing only about 29%. Mr. Martin noted that this is not a problem unique to the district as numerous districts are underfunded at this time.

Mrs. Crandall asked if with the district's funds reflecting a positive ending balance, in addition to there being an undesignated amount of \$1,281,940, is there is any possibility of paying this money back to Fund 40; perhaps considering putting \$1 million of this money back in the fund. Mr. Martin noted that this is something that we may be able to consider and do more analysis on, although it would need to be discussed with Mr. McMahon and the board. Mrs. Crandall thanked Mr. Martin for his report.

Mr. Collins noted that we have built in costs to cover longevity and step and column, affecting salaries each year.

Dr. Ecker thanked Mr. McMahon and Mr. Martin for their reports this evening, noting that this is the first time our Director of Fiscal Services has had the opportunity to review our unaudited actuals with the Board. He noted that related to Mrs. Crandall's statement, typically salaries and benefits run into the mid 80's in terms of percentage of the overall budget, creeping to 88% is starting to approach dangerous territory and when this percentage exceeds 90 or more; it is something that demands our attention. He noted, however, that the total expense of our salaries today is lower than it was five years ago, due to new hires and furlough days along with the lack of COLA increases. He noted that it is because of deferrals and the immense amount of cuts that we have had to make in program and services, despite the lower total expense of salaries and benefits, that this percentage does creep up. When this expense creeps over 90%, there is a limited amount of funds to operate facilities and provide support in addition to running the risk of being unable to fulfill a district's financial commitments.

Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, Anne Silavs presented the 2012 STAR Tests Results for the Fountain Valley School District

**STAR TEST RESULTS
2012 (ORAL AND**

to the Board of Trustees.

WRITTEN)

She explained that the district needs to complete some demographic data corrections with STAR, causing an abbreviated presentation this evening. These corrections do affect the district's subgroup information. These results will be available in mid-December. API and AYP information will therefore also be delayed. She explained the STAR program, noting that it measures student achievement in English/language arts, writing in grades 4 and 7, mathematics, science in grades 5 and 8 and history/social science in grade 8. She explained that overall, the district's results are impressive. The district surpassed both State and County averages overall. Regarding language arts, there was a 5% gain over 2011 with some grade levels showing significant progress. Writing in Grade 4 showed an overall increase of 9% over last year. We saw growth of 3% in Grade 7 for writing. In mathematics, our scores seemed somewhat flat, with overall a modest 1% gain. She explained that while there appears to be a performance dip in 8th grade math and algebra I, this is actually reflective of the increased number of students enrolled in algebra I. Districts are penalized by the State for students who take the general 8th grade math test instead of the algebra I test. In order to address this, the district has focused on providing grade-level appropriate curriculum and expanding the opportunity for students to participate in algebra I. In 2011, there was a 37% level of participation while in 2012, our participation level increased to 46% of 8th graders. Although there was a decline in overall performance, given the increased participation, the results are still respectable and well above the County average. In science there was growth amongst 5th and 8th grades with a significant increase in 8th grade. In history and social science there was also a gain from 2011 to 2012.

Mrs. Allcorn asked regarding algebra, with the increased pressure from the State for all students in 8th grade to take the algebra I test, if there was a differentiated structure for students or if everything is algebra. Ms. Silavs explained that the district has not thrown all students into algebra. She noted that the framework calls for 8th grade algebra I or algebra readiness, which is essentially a class for those students not yet ready for algebra I, which focuses on primary foundational skills for algebra. The district did broaden its criteria for algebra given the feeling that it would be better for students to gain exposure to algebra I even if they did not score advanced or proficient. It would serve them better than repeating 7th grade standards or standards already mastered. It would be better to challenge these students for a year than to allow them to tread water. She explained that the standard for 8th grade math since 1998 has

been algebra I. She noted that while districts have approached this through varying implementations, she noted for our district that it is important to strike a balance, while we want to provide students opportunities, we do not want to place them in a situation that would be detrimental to them. The challenge for the district is to find a balance on this so that we do not inadvertently become gate keepers for some students.

Mrs. Allcorn noted her understanding concerning AP tests that high schools are judged not necessarily by the number of students that pass the tests, but by the number of students that take the tests; she asked if this was also the case concerning our district and our API ranking. Ms. Silavs explained that we are not penalized in this way. Instead she explained that the only penalty to the district in terms of our accountability and the API index and the AYP score, is if an 8th grade student takes the general math test instead of the algebra I test. While the student receives their correct score, the district receives credit for one level less (i.e., advanced would only be counted as proficient).

Mr. Collins noted that in his experience concerning 8th graders you can do irreparable harm pushing them too fast, too soon because developmentally they are not ready. He noted his understanding of having the bar high and letting students rise to the challenge, but if developmentally they are not ready you are setting them up for failure. He noted because of this he applauds the district for doing it a different way in terms of instruction on algebra I. He thanked Ms. Silavs for her report.

Mrs. Crandall noted that usually success in algebra I is predicated on a really strong mathematical foundation in a young grade. She noted that currently five of our seven elementary schools are in different stages of implementing ST Math. She asked if Ms. Silavs saw any correlation between the ST Math program and these scores. Ms. Silavs noted not yet having studied this relationship but that it will be interesting to see as we go forward if more students meet our expanded criteria for algebra I because they have a strong conceptual understanding of math because of ST Math. Additionally, she noted the transition coming our way with the Common Core State Standards, noting that while math standards are still under review, there are pathways, and it appears to be less rigid than the current California model regarding 8th grade mathematics.

Mr. Collins asked if regarding the corrections to the demographic data will make a difference in the overall achievement level for the district. Ms. Silavs noted that the data was looked at closely and given the hypothetical that if none of those that were miscoded scored proficient or advanced, they looked at what the probability would be that these would have an effect. She noted

that given the fact that they are pretty well scattered across the sites, it was determined that there would not be a significant impact on one school, and for the district in general, perhaps a one percent change.

Mr. Templin asked if the corrections in coding effect individual students. Ms. Silavs explained that it does not have impact on the individual student reports.

Dr. Ecker noted that as the common core was debated, there was a great deal of disagreement over whether or not algebra I should be the standard for 8th grade. He noted that he is pleased with the various options put into place for these students, but that in terms of linking our curriculum to the common core when a parent asks what the core math expectation is for 8th grade, it is algebra I.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Crandall attended the Cox, Plavan and Talbert's Back to School Nights and noted that there were wonderful turnouts at each event. She also enjoyed the Mayor's Breakfast and invited the attendees there to attend the Taste of Fountain Valley. She noted that the speaker from the Registrar of Voters thanked the district for the use of its sites on election day. She attended the Kelly Osborn Memorial Fundraiser as well as the second FVEF meeting, noting that the Taste is October 5th at Mile Square and that ticket prices will remain at \$30. She noted that opportunity drawing baskets are in our hallway. She attended the Fulton orientation for 6-8 graders. She also noted that on September 14th the Fountain Valley Educational Foundation turned 30 years old. She noted that there are only three other organizations in Fountain Valley that have sustained 30 years, the Friends of Fountain Valley Library, the Fountain Valley Historical Society and the Fountain Valley Women's Club. She extended her congratulations to FVEF on this accomplishment. She noted that 42 attended the Community Volunteer Academy Kindergarten training, an increase from previous classes. She participated in a CSBA webinar on funding mandates. Regarding the Taste of Fountain Valley, she was pleased to report that 13 restaurants to date have signed up and 200 tickets have been sold.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Templin noting that he started coaching again with students and it is a delight. He explained that this also gives him an opportunity to be in the community and field questions that some parents may not be able to ask at a board meeting. He has been promoting the Taste of Fountain Valley as well as the Technology Bond and noted that there will be an exhibit of a 21st

century classroom on display, something that has caught the interest of numerous families. Last year during the school closure, he committed to following up with some families that were affected by the closure of Moiola. At Back to School night he was able to follow up with two of the families, both of which are genuinely happy with their new schools and are very excited about how welcome their students have been made to feel. He noted that the PTA president at Courreges did a wonderful job at Back to School Night providing information on the bond. He enjoyed as well the Talbert Back to School Night. He also has been invited to participate in an Eagle Code of Honor presentation and he invited board to attend. He thanked the board for their support.

Mr. Edwards enjoyed two SPC meetings as well as the OCSBA presentation by Kevin Gordon. She noted that a lot of good information was shared at the event. She attended the scouts' presentation on 9/11 at Courreges, noting that it was a wonderful and very well done event. She also attended the Mayor's Breakfast as well as Newland and Fulton's Back to School Nights.

Mrs. Allcorn enjoyed Fulton's Back to School Night as well as the phone banking at STAR Real Estate for Measure N. She noted that spirits were high both evenings. She thanked those staff that also attended as well as our teachers and parent volunteers. She commended Mrs. Rincon and Mrs. Schultz for their leadership on the bond campaign and she acknowledged the hard work outside of district time and resources that is going into this. She also enjoyed the Taste of Holy Spirit.

Mr. Collins enjoyed Back to School Nights at Gisler and Oka and noted also having the opportunity to speak with some Moiola parents now happy at both of these campuses. He noted that it was a sincere and honest approach across the district to welcome Moiola students into their new sites. He noted that at Masuda the parents turned out in force. He enjoyed the Chamber of Commerce luncheon and noted that when the school district was mentioned there were a lot of smiles. He attended the FVEF meeting and will be working alongside the Community Foundation at the poker tournament on the 6th. He attended two SPC meetings and noted as well that last year he wanted to attend each of site's PTO/A meetings. He is working to fulfill that promise and attended the Talbert, Tamura, Fulton and Cox meetings noting his surprise at how many turned out at the beginning of the school year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to address the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS**LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Motion:	Mrs. Edwards moved to approve the Revision to Board Policy 1250 Visitors/Outsiders for first reading.	REVISION TO BOARD POLICY 1250 VISTIONS/ OUTSIDERS (FIRST READING)
Second:	Mrs. Allcorn	
Vote:	5-0	
Motion:	Mr. Templin moved to approve the Revisions to Board Policy 3515.2 Disruptions for first reading.	REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 3515.2 DISRUPTIONS (FIRST READING)
Second:	Mrs. Crandall	
Vote:	5-0	
Motion:	Mr. Templin moved to approve the Revisions to Board Policy 6020: Parent Involvement for first reading.	REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 6020: PARENT INVOLVEMENT (FIRST READING)
Second:	Mrs. Edwards	
Vote:	5-0	
Motion:	Mrs. Crandall moved to approve the Revisions to Board Policy 6145: Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities for first reading.	REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 6145: EXTRACURRICULAR AND COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (FIRST READING)
Second:	Mrs. Edwards	
Mrs. Crandall noted that this policy will very much change the complexion of how things are done in the district. Mr. Collins agreed that it is a very difficult situation with litigation hitting the districts, especially the high school districts, very hard. It will change the way thing are done.		
Vote:	5-0	
Motion:	Mr. Templin moved to approve the Revisions to Board Policy 6174: Education for English Learners	REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 6174:

for first reading.

Second: Mrs. Allcorn

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to approve Board Bylaw 9321: Closed Session Purposes and Agendas for first reading.

Second: Mr. Templin

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to approve the Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement between FVSD and CSEA, Chapter #358

Second: Mrs. Allcorn

Mr. Collins noting not being able to wait for the day funding improves as it is very difficult for families to live without increases as the cost of living goes up.

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mrs. Allcorn moved to approve Tentative Agreement Between FVSD and CSEA, Chapter #358.

Second: Mr. Templin

Mr. Collins noted that the district is fortunate to have two associations that work well with us. There are so many districts locally and nationally that endure acrimonious relationships. We appreciate it.

Vote: 5-0

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

Second: Mrs. Edwards

Vote: 5-0

EDUCATION FOR
ENGLISH LEARNERS
(FIRST READING)

REVISIONS TO
BOARD BYLAW 9321:
CLOSED SESSION
PURPOSES AND
AGENDAS (FIRST
READING)

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
OF COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN FVSD AND
CSEA, CHAPTER #358

TENTATIVE
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN FVSD AND
CSEA, CHAPTER #358

CONSENT
CALENDAR/
ROUTINE ITEMS OF
BUSINESS

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board Meeting Minutes from August 23rd board meeting
- Personnel Items (Employment Functions, Workshops/Conferences, and Consultants)
- Warrants
- Purchase Order Listing
- Budget Adjustments
- Renewal of Membership in Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$325
- Board Policy 0410 Non-Discrimination in District Programs and Activities (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 5131 Conduct (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 5144.1 Suspension/Expulsion (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 5145.3 Non-Discrimination/Harassment (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 5145.7 Sexual Harassment (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 5131.2 Bullying (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 6170.1 Transitional Kindergarten (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Board Policy 0520.2 Title I Program Improvement Schools (Second Reading and adoption)
- Board Policy 0520.3 Title I Program Improvement Districts (Second Reading and Adoption)
- Confidential Settlement Agreement
- Unaudited Actuals for Fiscal Year Ending 2011-12
- Mandate Block Grant
- Approve Attendance of students from Vista Unified School District
- Approval of Continuation in K-3 Class Size Reduction program for 2012-13
- Non-Public Agency Contracts

Non-Public School/Agency	100% Contract Cost	Effective Dates
Devereux Florida	\$82,490	7/1/12-6/30/13
Sylvia Mende, Psy.D.	\$25,000	7/1/12-6/30/13
Sage Behavior Services, Inc.	\$1,180	8/1/12-8/31/12
Speech & Language Dev. Center	\$3,659.50	7/1/12-8/31/12
Mardan Center of Ed. Therapy	\$30,960	9/6/12-6/30/13

NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Dr. Ecker Noted the 9th Annual Taste of Fountain Valley will be October 5th. He explained that we missed the event last year and it is great to get

back to it. He noted it is a great event that raises money for a good cause. There will be three presentations of a 21st century classroom at the Taste at 6:45, 7:45 and 8:45pm. He noted that the FVEF always supports technology in the district and has endorsed Measure N.

Dr. Ecker Thank Mr. Templin for his kind comments. He thanked senior staff for their quick responses to those questions that came in, noting that we do have a great team. He noted that he appreciates the board for recognizing them and the leadership role they play in district.

Dr. Ecker Noted that he smiles when he hears those good things about the students that went through the Moiola closure and noted it is great to hear examples of people that have spoken to families sharing what a great experience they are now having at their new schools.

Dr. Ecker Thanked our collective bargaining units for their continued cooperation with the district.

Dr. Ecker Noted that a lot of staff in the district are working harder this fall than they ever have because of their assistance in getting the message out on Measure N. There are so many people that care so deeply and work so hard. He noted all the work that is going into calling and the exhibits at Back to School Nights and the Taste of Fountain Valley as well as the messaging on Measure N. He read a quote from Greg Franklin, superintendent of Tustin Unified School District whose district is also going out for a bond on a larger scale. He shared the quote "His Name is Today", noting that this is the real reason behind all of this and it is important to remember as we strive to get a very important message out.

Mr. Collins Welcomed and thanked board candidates Mr. Cunneen and Mrs. Galindo for attending this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mrs. Edwards moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm.

Second: Mr. Templin

Vote: Unanimously approved

/rl