



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 13, 2015

Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:15 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Joe Nava, President; Mr. George Neely, Vice-President; Mr. Ron Freitas, Clerk; Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Mr. Ron Heberle; Dr. Daryl Talken and Mr. Ralph Womack

Administrative Staff: Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO; and Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel

Student Representatives: Mr. Ryan Ozminkowski, Lodi High School and Ms. Alexa Douros, Tokay High School

Meeting Recorder: Ms. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Ken and Cynthia Stoub spoke to the Board regarding a Closed Session student matter.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:15 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Nava led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Nava reported on the following action taken in Closed Session:

- **Non Public School Student** - Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of Non-Public School Student #2014-15 #88.
- **Anticipated Litigation:**
 - Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board voted unanimously to reject Claim #501162.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer apprised the Board and audience that Lodi Middle School Instructor Sherry Alexander is currently among ten finalists in a contest sponsored by Great American Insurance Company. Ms. Alexander is competing for the grand prize of \$10,000 that would be used for Science materials and equipment for her classroom. The prize is awarded based on public vote. Please vote daily at

www.gaclassroommakeover.com. Dr. Washer announced that the Tokay High School football team won the California Interscholastic Federation Sac-Joaquin Section Community Service Award for fall sports. Congratulations to the Tokay High School football team who will be formally honored later this month.

Public Hearings

Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA) for the 2014-2015 Year

President Nava declared the public hearing "Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA) for the 2014-2015 Year" open.

Board Comments
None

Public Comments
None

The public hearing was declared closed.

Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group (LUSG) for the 2014-2015 Year

President Nava declared the public hearing "Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group (LUSG) for the 2014-2015 Year" open.

Board Comments
None

Public Comments
None

The public hearing was declared closed.

Consent Agenda A

Mr. Heberle asked to remove Item A-2 and Mr. Neely asked to remove Item A-5. No items were removed by the public.

Mr. Neely motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as amended:

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-3 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-4 Warrants
- Item A-6 Shakespeare in Performance And On Film Course of Study
- Item A-7 Hospitality and Tourism Management Course of Study and Textbook Adoption
- Item A-8 Developmental Child Psychology Course of Study and Textbook Adoption
- Item A-9 2014-2015 Single Plan for Student Achievement

- Item A-10 Approval of 2013-2014 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCS)
- Item A-11 Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements
- Item A-12 Minutes of the Regular Meeting, November 18, 2014
- Item A-13 Minutes of the Organizational Meeting, December 9, 2014
- Item A-14 Minutes of the Special Meeting, January 6, 2015

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-2 Contracts List

Mr. Heberle pulled Item A-2 Contracts List for clarification on the item to extend the contract for the legal firm of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya Ruud & Romo. Mr. Hern explained that most likely the District will not use the entire amount listed on the item.

Mr. Neely asked why the need for a legal firm to handle policies, as the District contracts with California School Boards Association's Gamut Online service. Dr. Washer stated that CSBA provides samples of policies, and that legal counsel would provide more detailed information.

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Item A-2 Contracts List.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-5 Child Development Course of Study and Textbook Adoption

Mr. Neely removed this item for further inquiry. Mr. Neely noted that he is an advocate for e-textbooks when available; however, when researching such he found a cheaper price for the hardcopy textbook. He asked how the District researches the best price for an item such as a textbook. Mr. Hern explained the process.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Item A-5 Child Development Course of Study and Textbook Adoption.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Mr. Womack asked to remove Item B-2 from Consent Agenda B.

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #14/15-8-20
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student #14/15-8-22
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student #14/15-7-23
- Item B-5 Expulsion: Student #14/15-8-24
- Item B-6 Expulsion: Student #14/15-10-25
- Item B-7 Expulsion: Student #14/15-10-26
- Item B-8 Expulsion: Student #14/15-11-27
- Item B-9 Expulsion: Student #14/15-7-28
- Item B-10 Admission: Student #14/15-6-A5
- Item B-11 Admission: Student #14/15-10-A6

Item B-12 Readmission: Student #13/14-4-12
Item B-13 Readmission: Student #13/14-4-49
Item B-14 Readmission: Student #13/14-8-51
Item B-15 Readmission: Student #13/14-11-53
Item B-16 Readmission: Student #13/14-7-56
Item B-17 Readmission: Student #13/14-10-68
Item B-18 Readmission: Student #13/14-8-72
Item B-19 Readmission: Student #13/14-8-85
Item B-20 Readmission: Student #13/14-8-94
Item B-21 Readmission: Student #13/14-10-96
Item B-22 Readmission: Student #13/14-9-97
Item B-23 Readmission: Student #13/14-10-103
Item B-24 Readmission: Student #13/14-10-104
Item B-25 Readmission: Student #13/14-9-114
Item B-26 Readmission: Student #13/14-11-117

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as amended.

Mr. Womack motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to deny Item B-2, the expulsion recommendation for Student #14/15-10-21.

Other Action Items

Resolution 2015-01 Adopting Local Reserves Cap (Senate Bill 858, Section 27, California Education Code)

Mr. Neely and Mr. Womack added Resolution 2015-01 to the agenda for Board consideration. Mr. Neely clarified the need to support the school boards of this state and to not diminish control at the local level. Mr. Womack spoke to encourage passage of the resolution.

Mr. Heberle related that the state wants districts to spend today's dollars on today's students. Mr. Heberle supports a healthy reserve for the District; however, he feels that the current District surplus is inappropriate when there are unmet student needs. He would like to see a balance between large surplus and meeting student needs.

Ms. Cassel voiced support for the resolution, citing the Board's fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers, children and parents. She said the state is trying to reduce districts' ending fund balances to historic lows.

Mr. Ryan Ozminkowski and Ms. Alexa Douros, Student Representative, spoke in opposition to the resolution citing the lack of money for school site needs, including funds for classroom projects and safety measures. They agreed that the money of today needs to go towards students currently enrolled.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comment

Mr. Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association; Dr. Scott Keithley, Parent

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board voted, as follows, to adopt Resolution 2015-01:

Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Nava, Neely, Womack
Noes: Heberle, Talken
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously no.

Provisional Internship Permit and Approval

Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented this item for Board consideration. Mr. McKilligan stated a diligent search was conducted. He asked to appoint this specific teacher to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Heberle asked when the vacancy came about. Mr. McKilligan answered that it was a recent vacancy.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve the Provisional Internship Permit and Approval item.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Proposed Board Policy Revision

Mr. Hern presented this item for Board consideration. Mr. Hern reported that the California Department of Education asked us to revise Board Policy 3555 and the corresponding Rule and Exhibit to be in compliance.

Mr. Heberle motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Board Policy Revision.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Appointment of Two (2) Board Members to Serve on the Facility Committee in Preparation of the Facility Master Plan

Mr. Hern presented this item to appoint two Board of Education members to serve on the Facility Committee in preparation of the Facility Master Plan. Mr. Hern explained the District will hire a consultant to help achieve the goals of the committee. Mr. Neely and Dr. Talken volunteered for the two positions. Mr. Heberle, also interested in serving, volunteered to be added as a third committee member.

Personnel Matters

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Freitas, motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters, as presented.

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Mr. Ryan Ozminkowski, Lodi High School and Ms. Alexa Douros, Tokay High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

Comments from the Public

Ms. Carol Kirst, Retired Teacher, presented an update on the elementary band and strings programs that were restored by the Board last year. She reported that 788 students are participating in this program that started in June. She thanked the Board for their commitment to the program; Ms. Lisa Kotowski for her guidance and Mr. Nick Lamattina and Ms. Dianna Hun from the Purchasing Department for the speed in getting the instruments ordered and in place for the students.

Ms. Sonja Renhult, Teacher, Woodbridge Elementary School, spoke regarding the current negotiation status of Lodi Unified and Lodi Education Association. She stated that if the Board wants Lodi to become an "education destination" and attract quality instructors, then a pay increase is needed.

Ms. Susan Heberle, Citizen, spoke in support of the idea of increasing funds towards supplies and equipment for student needs. She noted that both committees of the Local Control Accountability Plan have supported spending money on classroom needs.

Ms. Elizabeth Gambrah, Library Assistant, Bear Creek High School, presented the concern of the reduction in hours of the Library Assistant positions. She inquired that as the economy has improved, when might the District see the Library Assistants at the high school level have their hours restored. She spoke of the vital link of literacy in student achievement and that the library should be the heart of every educational institution.

Comments from Employee Groups

Ms. Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi, Chapter, introduced herself as the new president elected to serve the District's classified employees represented by CSEA. Ms. Ladwig noted the variety of professional organizations that is affiliated with and commented that she will keep the Board apprised, as appropriate. Ms. Ladwig stated she will be reaching out to each Board member with the hopes of developing a relationship of trust, compassion and understanding.

Mr. Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association, congratulated Ms. Ladwig on her recent appointment. Mr. Johnston commented on the impending resignation of Ms. Pennington. Mr. Johnston commented on the recent release of budget information by the Governor, which denotes an increase in revenues for school districts. Mr. Johnston commented that the Board cannot expect to recruit and maintain the best employees when salary and benefits are not comparable to surrounding districts.

Comments from the Board

Mr. Freitas commented on the impending retirement of Catherine Pennington. He commented on Ms. Saveth Bou, teacher at Podesta Ranch, for including the students in her recent U.S. citizenship ceremony at the campus. He informed the audience that the drama class at Millswood Middle School successfully raised \$2,000. The students then produced commercials and voted to choose which charities would receive the money. He concluded by wishing everyone a Happy New Year, at this the first meeting of 2015.

Mr. Neely shared a few remembrances about Catherine Pennington including their first meeting. He asked about the possibility of filling her position prior to her departure as a training opportunity. Mr. Neely thanked Carol Kirst for her continued commitment to the elementary music program. He spoke of the shifting roles in the school libraries and the need to increase funding and assets in this area. He indicated as money is returned, the District should put increases in the best places to meet goals. Mr. Neely shared his experience as a student of the CSU Stanislaus Administrative Credential course. During this course of the program his teacher is Dr. Washer. He went on to say that she is an incredible teacher and thanked her for her contributions.

Mr. Heberle also commented on his first memories with Catherine Pennington. He thanked Carol Kirst for her continued work with the elementary music program in her retirement. He related how music brings enrichment into the lives of children.

Mr. Womack attended an anti-bullying assembly at McNair High School. He visited Plaza Robles and Davis. He attended a Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Delta Sierra School. He noted he read to a class every Friday at Creekside Elementary School. He attended the winter concert at Manlio Silva School and he attended the citizenship ceremony for Saveth Bou at Podesta Ranch School. He reflected on Catherine Pennington's tenure with the District and commented on how she did her job with grace. He read an article related to alternatives for students' suspensions, which recommended starting interventions in the earliest grades.

Ms. Cassel spoke of the many positive attributes of Catherine Pennington. Ms. Cassel stated she strives to attend as many Professional Learning Community (PLC) as she can. During these PLCs she has observed the positive attitude of teachers doing the Common Core. Ms. Cassel attended the U.S. citizenship ceremony at Podesta Ranch School and the Open House at Turner Academy at Tokay Colony site. She thanked Carol Kirst for providing the update regarding the elementary music program.

Mr. Nava commented on Catherine Pennington and how he appreciated her follow up on concerns presented to her. Mr. Nava discussed the District's ongoing safety measures such as adding fencing where needed. Mr. Nava stated he is glad to see that many schools are providing anti-bullying assemblies and activities for their students. He spoke of the need to continue to foster collaboration with parents regarding the Common Core State Standards, noting that when parents are active in taking part in their children's education, their children do better at school. Mr. Nava spoke of the District's technology needs and noted that the District is progressing in this area. He noted that a 1992 graduate of Tokay High School, Samuel Cortez, who has been with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office since 2006, was recently promoted to the rank of Sheriff Correctional Lieutenant. Mr. Nava also noted that 1993 Lodi High School graduate and golf coach, Tara Staal, will be honored in April as one of six recipients to receive the 2014-15 Sac-Joaquin Section Model Coach Award.

Communications

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer noted that it is very exciting to hear the Board's "voice" coming from the students, as both Student Representatives spoke this evening of activities involving high school students promoting a link with students at the middle school level. This is a result of the Board's priority of increasing articulation between grades.

Report

Local Control Accountability Plan Update

Ms. Lisa Kotowski, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented an update on the District's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Ms. Kotowski presented information regarding Local Control Accountability Plan meetings, community forums, curriculum council presentations and LCAP Lead meetings. Ms. Kotowski presented information regarding future meetings, including a Special Meeting of the Board that will be conducted on February 10, 2015.

Ms. Kotowski outlined the eight state priorities for the process: basic services; implementation of standards; parent involvement; pupil achievement; pupil engagement; school climate; course access and pupil outcomes. The plan is to provide for all students with an increase to targeted student populations.

Mr. Neely asked that a count of meeting attendees be given to Board so that they are aware of the level of participation.

Mr. Nava inquired as to the number of meetings being offered in Stockton. He added that the time for such forums should be when working people are able to attend.

Mr. Heberle indicated that at the recent California School Boards Association meeting, he attended three LCAP-related seminars. He asked for staff to allow more lead time when promoting meetings via the District's automated calling system. He indicated concerns with the student meeting group conducted last year.

Mr. Freitas acknowledged that north Stockton is poorly represented and perhaps a Board member could host a meeting at one of their north Stockton schools in an attempt to garner more parental participation.

Ms. Cassel asked that at the February 10 Special Meeting that information be provided that identifies how many children are reading below grade level and what the cost would be to implement a program such as READ 180, System 44 or iREAD.

Public Comments

Ms. Susan Heberle, Citizen, spoke that input from the parents attending the LCAP meetings has been that they want a quality education for their children. The parents might have had different visions, but the consensus was they wanted every child to achieve.

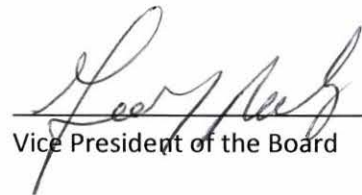
Board Advisory Committee Reports

None

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

The Board returned to Closed Session.



Vice President of the Board



President of the Board