



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 1, 2015

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

Board Members Present: Mr. Joe Nava, President; Mr. George Neely, Vice-President (*via teleconference*); 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. Dominic Hummel, Lodi High School and Mr. Roman Romero, Ronald McNair High School

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

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

No comments were received prior to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Nava announced that the Board meeting was being teleconferenced with Mr. Neely from Jenison, Michigan. Attendance was recorded and President Nava led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Nava reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

Public Hearings

Resolution 2015-37 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

President Nava declared the Public Hearing: Resolution 2015-37 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials open. Mr. Nava asked for comments from Board and from members of the public. No comments were received. The Public Hearing was declared closed.

Dedication of Temporary Construction Easement – Needham Elementary School

President Nava declared the Public Hearing: Dedication of Temporary Construction Easement – Needham Elementary School open. Mr. Nava asked for comments from Board and from members of the public. No comments were received. The Public Hearing was declared closed.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer reported that Araceli Ramirez, Teacher, McNair High School has been selected by Channel 10 News as their Teacher of the Month. Channel 10 will do a news feature of Ms. Ramirez as she is in class with her students on the 5:00 news broadcast on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. The Center for Ecoliteracy in Berkeley awarded the District's Nutrition Services Department with an Innovation Award for bringing "California Thursdays" to our students, as part of their California Food for California Kids campaign. She reported that the College and Career Night conducted on Monday was successful. This year the event added representatives from local businesses to talk to students and their families about what education or training is needed to get a job at their company. Universities from Southern California to Boston were available for the over 1,500 who attended the event. Dr. Washer updated the Board on current Professional Development sessions being offered to District instructors including Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS); iRead; Read 180; 1:1 Device; and Think Central. She noted that Beckman Elementary School recently had a ceremony to celebrate their 25-year anniversary.

Consent Agenda A

Mr. Heberle requested the removal of Item A-5. No items were removed by the public.

Mr. Heberle 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-2 Contracts List
- Item A-3 2014/15 Worker's Compensation Self-Insurer's Annual Report
- Item A-4 Resolution 2015-39 Dedication of Temporary Construction Easement – Needham Elementary School
- Item A-6 Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 18, 2015
- Item A-7 Resolution 2015-38 Lincoln Day Holiday 2015-16 School Year

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-5 Resolution 2015-37 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

Mr. Heberle pulled this item to voice concerns about instructional materials and asked what has changed from last year's resolution regarding the amounts and availability of instructional materials. Ms. Kotowski, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction, answered that last year the schools were asked what they needed and the identified items were purchased. In terms of the resolution, she noted they have followed the same protocol, which also includes the San Joaquin County Office of Education auditing several school sites.

Mr. Heberle noted he has a problem with the term "sufficiency", as he feels the District's materials are not at the levels they need to be.

Mr. Freitas noted the textbook adoption dates of many of the books on the list. Ms. Kotowski explained that in 2008 the state halted all adoptions for several years. The state has a schedule to catch up. Last year was the first with the math adoption, other subjects follow year by year. Mr. Freitas noted that the current history book is two U.S. Presidents behind. He does not support the resolution.

Mr. Neely commented that the textbook adoption dates will be a continual problem, hence the need to move towards a digital curriculum. Mr. Neely noted the need for the Board to approve this resolution, as it is tied to our funding for future textbooks.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Ms. Lisa Wilkins, Vice President, Lodi Education Association; Dr. Scott Keithley, Parent

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted to approve Item A-5 Resolution 2015-37 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials, as follows:

Ayes: Cassel; Nava; Neely; Talken; and Womack
No: Freitas and Heberle
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #15/16-8-01
Item B-2 Readmission: Student #13/14-9-77

Mr. Heberle motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B Student Discipline Cases as presented.

Personnel Matters

Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters

Mr. McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the item for Board consideration.

Mr. Neely voiced concern regarding the report, as it states that five combination classes are being filled by temporary teachers.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters.

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Mr. Ramon Romero, Ronald McNair High School, and Mr. Dominic Hummel, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

Comments from the Public

No comments.

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Ms. Lisa Wilkins, Vice President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), reported LEA is concerned about the health of students and LEA members due to mold and rodent issues in the District. She asked for open communication in the future from administration to staff and parents regarding potential health-related concerns and/or situations.

Ms. Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, commented that the Chapter hosted an informational booth at the recent College and Career Night. Chapter leaders supplied students with information regarding CSEA/AFL-CIO scholarship opportunities. She highlighted current Lodi Unified job postings; noting that students might be interest in part-time employment if they are continuing their education at a local institution, or perhaps want to start a career with the District. She noted the students she encountered were excited for the opportunity to listen and talk about their future. She added that many younger students accompanied their high school age sibling to the event, which is encouraging.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Neely asked for a discussion item to be placed on the next agenda regarding mold issues. He also inquired as to the protocol that is followed when an employee reports a potential concern.

Mr. Heberle also inquired as to the protocol for employee concerns, noting the importance of the process for investigation and communication purposes. He attended the College and Career Night and noted that there were more diverse types of booths available, including community businesses. He took part in a drive-through dinner fund raiser at Bear Creek High School.

Mr. Womack visited the Delta Sierra campus where students were making a video from shots taken by a drone they piloted during the Delta Sierra promotion. He asked that the video clip be shown at a future Board meeting. He attended the bathtub races at Creekside School and gave kudos to Physical Education Teachers, Dena Mason and Erinn Myers for arranging the event. The students designed, engineered and searched for the parts to build the boats. He attended the Back-to-School events at Delta Sierra and McNair, the 25th anniversary at Beckman School, and the Open House at Julia Morgan. He visited McNair and during his visit, he spoke with both teachers who won Cortopassi Awards for Science. Mr. Womack thanked Nutrition Services for bringing the Dairy Council of California's Mobile Dairy Classroom to Creekside; Julia Morgan; Wagner Holt; Houston; Sutherland; Vinewood and Joe Serna and *The Record* for their coverage of the event. He noted he has discussed the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) with a number of people with positive reviews and thanked the teachers and students who are making this happen. Mr. Womack acknowledged Mitch Slater, Senior Director of Operations, Maintenance & Operations, for aiding the students at Delta Sierra by checking with the FFA regarding how fast and how high the students could pilot their drone.

Mr. Nava thanked Mr. Hern for providing the *Fiscal Focus* newsletter, as it provides a wealth of information.

Report

Proposed Policy Revision – 5141.21

Ms. Dawn Vetica, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, and Mr. Jon Price, Coordinator, Special Education, presented Board Policy 5141.21 and corresponding Board Rule and Exhibit as a report

item. The policy has been revised to keep current with a change in California law regarding the availability of epinephrine auto-injectors at school sites.

Mr. Heberle voiced concerns related to tracking the training of the volunteers, recordkeeping, protocols, updates, and procedures in place to follow in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Price noted that the California School Nurses Organization provides updates on nursing protocols. He explained that the school nurses will provide training to school site personnel on a volunteer basis, the law specifies there be at least one volunteer at each site and the new law provides indemnification for those who are trained, as noted on Exhibit 5141.21.

As the policy also governs injectable insulin, Mr. Heberle asked about refrigeration practices for insulin storage. Mr. Price noted that such is typical school nursing duties. Mr. Price noted that school site secretaries and office staff are trained annually in medication administration. Mr. Price explained that the District will be stocking school sites, as required by the new law, with epinephrine auto-injectors. If no volunteer comes forward for a particular site, the site administrator will be trained.

Mr. Neely thanked staff for being proactive on the issue.

The item will return for action at the September 15, 2015 Board of Education meeting.

Board Discussion

High School Start Time

Mr. Neely stated this is the first step towards changing start times. He asked that the item be included on the agenda to see if there is consensus to move forward to evaluate high school start time. Mr. Neely stated there seems to be adequate evidence that a later start time is beneficial for high school students. He asked for support from Board to have this moved forward into a report or action item on a future agenda.

Dr. Talken asked Dr. Washer to seek input from high school principals to inquire as to what each high school wants to do. Mr. Nava added that staff, parents and students be added to the information gathering process.

Ms. Cassel supported seeking more information, as did Mr. Womack, who added that it is preliminary to voice support without learning more. Mr. Womack asked for input from the Student Representatives present.

Mr. Romero stated that he would welcome a later start time, as he rises at 5:30 a.m. He noted there are supportive scientific studies on the topic.

Mr. Hummel attends water polo practice before school and doesn't mind getting up earlier to do so. He added that students he has spoken to would like a later start time; however, the teachers he has spoken to are undecided about such a change.

Public Comments

No comments.

Mr. Heberle noted the importance of stakeholders and added he would like a thorough, unbiased list of pros and cons and a timeline for implementation, if that is the direction. He would also like to know if the change in start time would allow students to pick seven periods of study, thereby taking an additional class they might not have had the opportunity to take. He supports bringing the item back as a report for discussion.

Mr. Neely also noted the need for input from stakeholders. He feels the bottom line is that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported that early start times are detrimental to students. He noted that all other issues are secondary to what is best for our students.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Womack would like a discussion item about PBIS and the possibility of linking the PBIS program with the District's in-school suspension program. He noted the in-school suspension program has been in place for three years and he would like an update to see if the program is working as it was intended.

Adjournment

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board