



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 20, 2013

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

Board Members Present: Mr. Ralph Womack, President; Mr. Joe Nava, Vice-President; Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Ms. Ruth Davis; Mr. Ron Freitas; and Mr. Ron Heberle

Board Member Present Via Teleconference: Mr. George Neely, Clerk

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

Teleconference Location: University of Alaska Southeast, 11120 Glacier Hwy, Room SOB-212, Juneau, Alaska 9980

Student Representatives: Brooks Green, Bear Creek High School and Jennifer Truong, McNair High School

Meeting Recorder: Lynn Aebi, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:24 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:01 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Womack led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Womack reported on the following actions taken in Closed Session:

- **Non-Public School Student Placement**
Motion was made by Mr. Nava, seconded by Mr. Heberle and carried unanimously to approve the placement of Non-Public School Student 2013-14 #72.
- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**
Motion was made by Mr. Nava, seconded by Mr. Neely and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Mark Troutner, Vice Principal, Adult School/ROP, effective date to be determined.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer related that a segment will be aired on August 28th at 9:30 a.m. on FOX 40 highlighting the Liberty High School guitar class taught by Brad Owings. The segment will showcase the positive impact on student engagement. She announced the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart" program was a huge success in LUSD with 454 students participating. Our school communities raised close to \$14,000 last year, placing us 2nd in fund raising for Northern California two years in a row. She thanked the school nurses and school staffs for their efforts to support this worthy cause and teach children about community service and healthy living. Professional Learning Community Workshops on Common Core Implementation are scheduled for October 15- 17. Dr. Washer reported that 60 participants will be attending the Aspiring Administrators Program, which starts on September 3rd. She acknowledged schools for progress on improving student achievement, as evident by the recently released state testing results. She noted that although changes are coming, schools continue to focus on improving student achievement within the current accountability environment. She added that it was great to see Mosher Elementary highlighted in the Record and great to see that LUSD has been recognized as a district that continues to make growth.

Spotlight

The Westwood Elementary School Zoo Camp was spotlighted.

Consent Agenda A

Mr. Heberle asked to remove Item A-6.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board 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 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-4 Warrants
- Item A-5 Minutes of the August 6, 2013, Regular Meeting
- Item A-7 Lodi Education Association Re-openers for the 2013-14 School Year
- Item A-8 Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association for the 2013-14 School Year
- Item A-9 Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-6 Confidential Employee Salary Schedule Adjustment

Mr. Heberle stated he wanted the employees to be restored. The employees help this District in it's time of need, but the timing is difficult. He wants to make sure students get their fair share first. He said it is not a matter of if, but a matter of when.

Mr. Neely sought clarification whether the item was indeed an attempt to restore employee concessions made in 2010 or is this to help keep up with some medical insurance that was not increased for the Confidential employees. Dr. Washer stated Mr. Neely's second statement was correct; it is not restoring concessions that were taken a few years ago. Mr. Neely continued, "Then the answer is that this is not a

restoration of concessions made?" Dr. Washer stated that is correct. Mr. Heberle stated his comment still stands, as it is a salary adjustment increase.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted to approve the Confidential Employee Salary Schedule Adjustment, as follows:

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Nava, Neely, Womack

Noes: Heberle

Motion passed

Public Comments – none.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

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

Expulsion: Student #13/14-12-02

Expulsion: Student #13/14-12-03

Expulsion: Student #13/14-10-04

Other Action Items

Revision of Social Networking Guidelines for Clarification Purposes

Dr. Washer read an introduction to the revision of the guidelines to clarify the intent. Two additional document revision options for were distributed.

Mr. Nava commented that he appreciated the removal of the requirement of signatures of students, parents and the club advisor. He stated his pleasure with the revised document and said he was comfortable with Option Three.

Ms. Cassel asked audience members if they had difficulty comparing the revised document that was posted with the additional documents that were distributed to the audience members, and stated she was not comfortable with taking action on the Board item this evening.

Dr. Washer assured her the Board did not have to take action this evening; the documents are for review, consideration and discussion. The timelines for action rest with the Board.

Mr. Neely stated he agreed with Ms. Cassel. He commented that he cannot vote on any document, as he has not viewed the latest two documents.

Mr. Womack commented on the documents before him stating he has respect for people speaking for their rights, but we also have to be the voice for the children that are bullied; that cannot speak for themselves. He stated that even parents who monitor their child's sites may not be aware of what is occurring online. He voiced concern for victims of cyber bullying who often suffer in silence.

Public Comments

Ken Cross, Bear Creek High School, referred to the student Code of Conduct and commented that he felt that the Social Networking Guidelines go outside of school authority and should be enforced for school events only.

Dr. Washer clarified that the law does allow school authority for events that do not take place on school property.

Mr. Nava stated he has read the statement and he feels it falls within the guidelines of LUSD.

Mr. Freitas stated he appreciates the working being done by our District because bullying is a problem; however, he does not want students to give up their free speech rights. He presented the idea that he would like to see the guideline options posted online and receive public input. He added that he did not see a reason to push it through now.

Mr. Neely agreed to bring this item back at a future Board meeting.

No action was taken.

Consider Funding Options for Lodi High School Track Improvements

Mr. Hern presented this item for Board consideration, stating that the Lodi High School Boosters have worked very hard to raise \$400,000 to contribute toward the project. Mr. Hern stated that staff recommends the Board do one of two funding methodologies: (1) Board fund the balance of the project by \$522,000 or (2) Board matches the \$400,000, and the Boosters pay the remaining balance of the cost of the project of \$122,000. The \$122,000 could be loaned to the Boosters so that the project could begin.

Mr. Heberle asked if the funds would come from Fund 21. Mr. Hern responded in the affirmative, adding we could fund \$200,000 in Capitol Funds to put directly to the project and we would borrow from the General Fund and repay as project funds come available.

Ms. Cassel congratulated the Booster Club on their fund raising efforts. She likes the idea the cost was reworked and she likes the idea of the District matching the funds. Her wishes would be to go with Option Two. She does not feel the loan, while significant, would be too large a burden.

Mr. Neely inquired as to a 50/50 split. That idea was discussed.

Mr. Nava asked Mr. Hern to explain the process taken to arrive at Options One and Two. Mr. Hern expounded on his meetings with Booster representatives and detailed the process.

Mr. Freitas stated that based on the track being available to all students, the improvements to the site, the increased safety for students and public, voiced his support for Mr. Neely's proposal of splitting the cost.

Ms. Davis asked which other schools have all-weather tracks and who paid for them? Mr. Hern responded that Tokay High and Bear Creek High have all-weather tracks that were paid for by bond dollars.

Mr. Heberle asked if this project would have a built in contingency. Mr. Hern answered in the affirmative. Mr. Heberle commended the dedication and tenacity of the group. He added he wanted to bring forward that with the contingency it is possible the amount may not be as much.

Ms. Davis inquired if Fund 21 may eventually cover the cost. Mr. Hern answered in the affirmative. Ms. Davis stated she was in favor of Option One, because the other schools have been fully funded. She stated the District should graciously accept their \$400,000 and fund the remainder.

Mr. Womack commented that he has had the pleasure of meeting many of the Lodi High Boosters and he doesn't think any other group has raised that much through fund raising efforts. For these reasons, he chooses Option One to pay the balance.

Mr. Hern stated that the Boosters have advised him that if the District allocates funds for the remainder of the track, they will continue to fund raise to assure the track is maintained in the best possible condition.

Mr. Nava asked for clarification on the construction timelines.

Public Comments

Bob Lofsted, Principal, Lodi High School acknowledged the work of the Boosters and students. He stated there are six periods of Physical Education on that track daily and maintenance is difficult. This will benefit the health and well being of our students.

Denise Woods, President, Lodi High Booster Club, stated planning for this project began in spring, 2011. She commended the work of Tim Hern, Warren Sun and Vicki Brum. This is going to benefit not just track and field; it benefits anyone who does P.E., band or football. Once this is built, the Boosters can generate money, as we have other goals, including building a snack bar. She stated the Booster Clubs' appreciation for time spent on this project. She added that this is a great way to memorialize Mr. Womble.

Mr. Nava related, as a coach, his students had to practice on a field that was sub standard, prompting injuries. That facility is now state-of-the-art. He understands the concerns presented and would opt for Option One.

Mr. Nava motioned, Ms. Davis seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Funding Option One for Lodi High School Track Improvements.

The student vote was unanimously aye.

Increase the Budget for General Fund Site Allocation by Ten Percent (10%) in Order to Give Each School Site Additional Funds for Classroom Materials, Supplies and Equipment

Mr. Hern presented the item for consideration. Mr. Hern reported that Mr. Neely stated at the last Board Meeting that he would like to see funds for supplies restored at the school sites. Mr. Hern stated the cost to increase funding to school sites by ten percent (10%) to be used for classroom supplies, materials and equipment would cost \$1.5 million.

Mr. Nava joined the discussion by noting the importance of getting funds back to the schools. Ten percent is not much, but it is something teachers can work with at the sites.

Mr. Heberle asked to take note of the amount of money that has been spent at the last couple of meetings. In April, he brought a proposal to start reducing the class size that was increased. At that time, he was told why the District could not do so as the Strategic Plan was not in place, so that answer did not mean anything. He supports this and wants the money to go back to the schools.

Ms. Cassel added her support along with a question for Mr. Hern. She sought clarification, as the item states classroom materials, supplies and equipment, could the site use the funds for AVID tutors? Mr. Hern answered that this proposal does not cover personnel, only equipment and supplies.

Mr. Womack asked how the funds would be allocated to the sites. Mr. Hern stated that the funds would be utilized at the sites' discretion and the funds would be based on student enrollment.

Dr. Washer clarified the intent of the original item is that the money be used for classroom needs, which will be made clear to the sites.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to Increase the Budget for General Fund Site Allocation by Ten Percent (10%) in Order to Give Each School Site Additional Funds for Classroom Materials, Supplies and Equipment.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Adoption of Resolution 2013-32 to Approve the Construction of a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Station

Mr. Hern presented the item for Board consideration. The Resolution would approve the contribution of \$300,000 from the California Energy Commission Board towards the replacement of our current refueling station, while also providing access by the public. Mr. Hern stated that with the number of District buses running on CNG, the District is saving hundreds of thousands of dollars per year.

Ms. Cassel stated she works at Sequoia National Park, which has the worst air pollution of any national park in the U.S. One of her duties includes posting air quality signs warning sensitive groups that the air quality is bad, which has been done almost daily. She voiced her support for the proposal adding, it is good for the District and excellent for the environment.

Mr. Neely asked if other people would be able to utilize the facility. Mr. Hern answered in the affirmative, adding that it is part of the requirement of the grant. Mr. Neely asked if the District will be able to generate any funds from the refueling station. Mr. Hern answered that the District will be able to sell natural gas to the public at retail price. Mr. Hern explained the District would like to see CNG fueling stations expand across the state to increase the distance our natural gas buses can travel on field trips. Currently, long distance field trips have to take a diesel bus because of the limited number of CNG filling stations available. We will also be able to use other Districts' filling stations as they become more available throughout the state.

Mr. Heberle inquired as to funding aspects of the matching grant requirements.

Mr. Nava motioned, Ms. Cassel seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the Adoption of Resolution 2013-32 to Approve the Construction of a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Station.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Public Hearing

Lodi Education Association (LEA) Re-opens for the 2013-14 School Year. Board of Education acknowledges receipt of 2013-14 Re-opens From Lodi Education Association.

Mr. Womack declared open the Public Hearing: Lodi Education Association (LEA) Re-opens for the 2013-14 School Year. Board of Education acknowledges receipt of 2013-14 re-opens from Lodi Education Association. There were no comments and the hearing was declared closed.

Personnel Matters

Mr. McKilligan presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board members voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters, as presented.

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Brooks Green, Bear Creek High School and Jennifer Truong, McNair High School reported on activities from their respective high schools.

Comments from Employee Groups

Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association, offered condolences to the Heberle family for the loss of Sarah Heberle. He attended a conference at UCLA, which focused on Common Core Standards. He extended appreciation to Lisa Kotowski and her staff for finding substitutes so teachers could attend the LA event. He reported that currently, LEA and LUSD have a grievance and arbitration, which is pending arbitration. LEA invited the District to have a dialog about the issue. He spoke of restoration consideration of teachers salaries.

Comments from the Public

Susan Heberle, Citizen, spoke in favor of small class sizes and applauded the efforts that have been made to date to accomplish such.

Zachary Denney, Student, Bear Creek High School, clarified that the letter he sent to LUSD's Director of Maintenance & Operations was not intended to be a threat. He apologized for any misunderstanding.

Hanna Jobrack, Student, Bear Creek High School, spoke of the students' appreciation that the Board and staff are working towards reworking the Social Media (Networking) Guidelines.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Womack gave kudos to John Hunt, Counselor, Tokay High School, for the nice article in the Record. He thanked the schools for taking such great care of their respective facilities.

Mr. Neely thanked Dale Munsch, Director of Technology for making it possible for him to attend, via teleconference, both Closed and Open Sessions of the Board of Education meetings. Mr. Neely applauded Mr. Womack's statements on the Social Networking Guidelines, stating Mr. Womack's comments were spot on.

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Comments from the Superintendent
None

Board Advisory Committee Reports
None

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.



Clerk of the Board



President of the Board