

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
December 10, 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; Mr. George Neely, Clerk; Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Mr. Ron Freitas and Mr. Ron Heberle

**Board Member Absent:** Ms. Ruth Davis

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

**Meeting Recorder:** 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 at this time.

**Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

**Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:10 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:

- **CAHSEE Waivers** – Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted 6-0 to approve California High School Exit Exam Waiver for student 2013-14 #10.

**Recognition**

Mr. Joe Nava presented a plaque to President Ralph Womack on behalf of the Board of Education for his 2013 presidential service and leadership.

**Board Organization – Election of Officers**

President: Mr. Neely nominated Ms. Cassel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heberle. The vote on the motion to elect Ms. Cassel as President was unanimously aye by voice vote of the Board members present.

Vice President: Mr. Neely nominated Mr. Nava. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heberle. The vote on the motion to elect Mr. Nava as Vice President was unanimously aye by voice vote of the Board members present.

Clerk: Mr. Heberle nominated Ms. Davis. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neely. The vote on the motion to elect Ms. Davis as Clerk was unanimously aye by voice vote of the Board members present.

### **Recess**

There was a brief recess to allow newly elected officers to be seated.

### **Board Organization – Calendar of Meetings**

Mr. Neely asked to reschedule the February 18, 2014 meeting to February 11 or 25, 2014.

Public Comment – Mr. Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Teachers Association, raised a concern regarding the lateness of the February meeting in relation to the March 15 deadline for certificated personnel actions. Mr. McKilligan stated that with the advance notice, Personnel timelines will be adjusted.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and Board members present voted unanimously to approve the 2014 Calendar of Board Meetings, as amended, changing the February 18, 2014 meeting date to February 25, 2014. Students' preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Board Organization – Board Committee Appointments**

Board sub-committee appointments for 2014 were as follows:

City of Stockton 2x2: Mr. Nava; Mr. Womack

City of Lodi 2x2: Mr. Neely; Mr. Heberle

City of Stockton Parks & Recreation Commission: Mr. Nava

Board Audit Review Committee: Ms. Davis; Mr. Heberle; Mr. Womack

Energy Conservation Committee: Ms. Cassel; Ms. Davis; Mr. Freitas

Joe Serna Jr. Charter Advisory Committee: Mr. Heberle

San Joaquin County School Boards Association: Mr. Neely

Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee: Mr. Davis; Mr. Freitas; Mr. Heberle

Research K-8 School Model Committee: Ms. Cassel; Mr. Heberle; Mr. Neely

Mr. Neely commented that the Research K-8 School Model Committee has never met. He and Ms. Cassel will remain on the committee and will look forward to staff calling a meeting of this committee.

### **Board Organization – CSBA Delegate Assembly**

Mr. Neely nominated Mr. Womack. Mr. Womack accepted the nomination. Mr. Nava nominated Mr. Heberle. Mr. Heberle accepted the nomination. Mr. Womack nominated Mr. Freitas. Mr. Freitas accepted the nomination.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Washer reported that Amelia Ellison, sixth grader at Vinewood Elementary School took second place at the county spelling bee and will go on to the state competition. Dr. Washer acknowledged a program at Christa McAuliffe School recognizing Veteran's Day with their Thank-A-Veteran campaign, helping students understand and honor our nation's veterans. Dr. Washer reported that the first Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) workshop was conducted the prior evening at Bear Creek High School, with seven in attendance. The next scheduled meeting will be conducted on Thursday evening. Dr. Washer explained the District's goals for the LCFF/LCAP meetings. The Superintendent's Poetry contest is underway. The GOT Kids Foundation Talent Showcase has been advertised. Dr. Washer relayed the attendance of her and fellow Board Members at the recent California School Boards Association (CSBA) conference in San Diego. Several topics that are currently Board priorities were presented at the conference. Mr. Hern was also in attendance, making a budget presentation at the conference.

### **Consent Agenda A**

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and Board members present voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business.

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-2 AB 1200 Documents for Lodi Unified Supervisory Employee Group
- Item A-3 AB 1200 Documents for Lodi Unified CSEA Employee Group
- Item A-4 AB 1200 Documents for Lodi Unified Confidential Employee Group
- Item A-5 Warrants
- Item A-6 Contracts List
- Item A-7 Management Employee Work Year Calendar
- Item A-8 Confidential Employee Work Year Calendar
- Item A-9 Board Policy Revisions
- Item A-10 Minutes of the November 19, 2013, Regular Board Meeting

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases**

- Expulsion: Student #13/14-11-24
- Expulsion: Student #13/14-10-25
- Expulsion: Student #13/14-9-26
- Expulsion: Student #13/14-11-27
- Expulsion: Student #13/14-10-28
- Readmission: Student #11/12-9-109

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, with the addition of Readmission #12/13-7-54.

## **Other Action Items**

President Cassel opted to change the order of the action items.

### **Delta Sierra Middle School and Christa McAuliffe Middle School Attendance Boundary Changes to Alleviate Overcrowding at Christa McAuliffe Middle School**

The item was presented for Board consideration.

#### **Board Comments**

Mr. Neely stated he would be voting against the item, as he believes it could have been handled better.

#### **Public Comments**

Martha Snider, Teacher, Christa McAuliffe, is in favor of the Board reviewing boundaries for all schools throughout the District. She is against moving Sutherland students twice.

Lester Patrick, community member and advocate for students, stated he is in agreement with the proposal and wanted to allay any concerns of parents. He cited Delta Sierra students' test score advances.

Frances Hilliard, representative of parents from Sutherland and Parklane, voiced concern regarding the proposed boundary change. She related their concerns are not about the administration at Delta Sierra, but about their communities being told again, first with the K-6 transition and now with the boundary changes, they must make changes.

Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association, asked if the Board acted on this item the first time it was on the agenda.

#### **Board Comments**

Ms. Cassel stated her support for transforming Delta Sierra into a high tech academy. She will support all efforts to this end. She also stated she understands the concerns of the Sutherland and Parklane communities. She stated Christa McAuliffe was not always the model of excellence it is today. Eight years ago McAuliffe was a struggling school. We were lucky to find a dynamic leader, Randy Malandro, who has driven the school to excellence with the help of an excellent staff. The District is lucky to have such people (administrators and staff) with vision, knowledge and enthusiasm driving their respective schools to excellence. She stated she will not support the proposal to send the Sutherland/Parklane community to Delta Sierra, but instead she wants to give Delta Sierra time and support to become a model academy. She listed some of the ways to deal with overcrowding issues at Christa McAuliffe.

Mr. Freitas voiced his support for the proposal and thanked the public speakers.

Mr. Womack voiced his original and continued support of the proposal. He commented that the parent support system is the key to student success.

Mr. Neely voiced he was against the proposal from the beginning and remains opposed to the proposal. If the proposal passes or fails, he wants staff to work with Sutherland parents so they have a choice of where their students will attend. He voiced support for stopping IDAs at Christa McAuliffe. He stated that Link Learning may be a direction for upper grades at Delta Sierra and other schools.

Jeff Johnston voiced concern of parliamentary procedure.

Mr. Heberle made a motion to bring the item back for consideration, seconded by Mr. Nava and the Board members present voted unanimously to bring the item back for consideration.

Student preferential vote unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded to approve the proposal, Delta Sierra Middle School and Christa McAuliffe Middle School Attendance Boundary Changes to Alleviate Overcrowding at Christa McAuliffe Middle School. Board members present approved the proposal, as follows:

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

Motion carried

Student preferential vote unanimously aye.

### **Annual Audit Report Ending June 30, 2013**

Ms. Maria Fong, Controller and Ms. Peggy Van de Vooren, CPA, from Gilbert Associates, presented the audit results from the Annual Audit Report, ending June 30, 2013. The auditor stated the Annual Report revealed a clean opinion in both the financial and compliance areas. A brief report was presented, as a more detailed report had been given to the Districts' Audit Committee. Ms. Van de Vooren reported that the District is currently working to address a concern regarding student body funds.

Public Comments – Susan Heberle asked for a clarification of available reserves versus reserves, and what available reserves can be used for.

Ms. Cassel thanked the presenters and noted that the purpose of such auditing is to assure the public that we educate the students and spend the taxpayer money appropriately.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve acceptance of the Annual Audit Report, Ending June 30, 2013.

Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **2013-14 First Interim Financial Report**

Mr. Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO and Angel Murnan, Director of Budgets, presented the item for Board consideration. Discussion ensued regarding specific budget account series.

Mr. Nava and Ms. Cassel thanked Mr. Hern and staff for the report.

Public Comments – none.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve acceptance of the 2013-14 First Interim Report.

Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Implementation Funding Spending Plan**

The item was presented by Lisa Kotowski, Administrative Director, Curriculum & Instruction.

Mr. Heberle asked for confirmation that the funds need to be expended by June 1, 2015. Ms. Kotowski answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Neely stated he had done additional research on the Chrome Books that will be purchased and although he is not one hundred percent in favor, he will no longer oppose their purchase.

Public Comments – None

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Implementation Funding Spending Plan.

Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Implementation Funding Spending Plan for Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School**

The item was presented by Ms. Catherine Pennington, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Implementation Funding Spending Plan for Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School.

Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Personnel Matters**

Mr. McKilligan presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Womack 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, presented reports from their respective high schools.

#### **Comments from the Public**

None

**Comments from Employee Groups**

None

**Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Heberle requested that another LCAP Public Meeting workshop be scheduled for after the first of the year.

Mr. Womack also supports the offering of another LCAP public meeting along with better marketing. He asked that we keep Career Technical Education (CTE) in our thoughts, including following up on the ROTC class at McNair High School. Mr. Womack addressed some highlights from the recent CSBA conference. He commended teachers Heather Marini, Reese Elementary School and Ryan Heinrich, Tokay High School, as being selected as Classroom Heroes by the *Lodi News Sentinel*.

Mr. Neely explained the Hour of Code and how teachers could provide this opportunity for their students. He spoke about the goal of bringing a Delta College campus to Lodi and highlighted the CSBA conference. He requested a Special Board meeting be planned in the coming months so the Board members and staff who attended the CSBA conference could share information.

Mr. Freitas commented that as this was the last meeting of 2013, he wanted to thank everyone for a wonderful year and wished a joyous holiday season to all.

Ms. Cassel attended the Best Practices Secondary meeting hosted by Dawn Vetica and Lisa Kotowski. She noted that a spirited debate about curriculum issues took place at the meeting and added she is pleased to know that this meeting is still being conducted. She attended the Block L ceremony at Lodi High School, which featured over 60 sophomores receiving a Block L. She wished everyone a lovely Christmas and hoped that they are able to find a degree of peace and happiness in the holidays. She thanked staff for their service.

**Comments from the Superintendent**

No further comments.

**REPORTS**

**Recommended Changes to 7-12 Grade Programs to Address the Common Core Standards: High School Math Classes and Pathways; Middle School Math and Daily Schedule**

Ms. Kotowski, Administrative Director, Curriculum and Instruction, along with Secondary Math Coaches, Kevin Anderson and Michelle Gaal presented.

Discussion ensued regarding math realignment and possible pathways for grades 7-12.

Mr. Heberle inquired about the Silicon Valley Math Initiative, asking if it promotes a traditional or integrated model. Mr. Heberle asked about the fee to use the program and Ms. Kotowski answered that it is about \$5,000. Mr. Cassel asked about the trainings that the Silicon Valley Math Initiative would provide.

Mr. Heberle questioned who made the decision to transition to the International Integrated Pathway. Ms. Kotowski stated she made the final decision with the input and consensus of math teachers, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), and administrators.

#### Public Comments

Sue Kenmotsu, Teacher, Julia Morgan School, asked if the intention is to keep the GATE students together in middle school, as she sees benefit from keeping them together.

Susan Heberle, Community Member, stated she has witnessed the District going through many math programs throughout the years. She voiced concern regarding middle school students being able to take enough coursework to get to Calculus and Calculus II. Ms. Kotowski explained the pathway. Mrs. Heberle also expressed concern with the use of the Silicon Valley Math Initiative.

Sonja Renhult, Teacher, Tokay Colony School, asked what happens to students already on an accelerated pathway and voiced concern about no accelerated math pathways in middle school.

Discussion on the item continued regarding schedule changes, as Ms. Kotowski proposed changing middle school from seven to six periods per day, thus changing the time from 45 minutes to 54 minutes.

Randy Malandro, Principal, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, explained how the change could be implemented, using his school site for example.

Sheree Flemmer, Principal, Millswood Middle School, expressed that her teachers were supportive of extra time with students, adding that moving to six periods per day readies the students for the high school schedule of six periods per day.

Janet Perez, Principal, Morada Middle School, expressed that laboratory classes and classes working on special projects could utilize the extra time allowance. The extra time could also allow for additional support time for students.

#### Board Comments

Mr. Heberle had questions about exploratory classes, drafting, computer lab, Spanish, French, AVID, etc. He noted the concept has strong positives to it.

Mr. Freitas said he was sold on the concept, but wanted to make sure parents were also on board with it.

Ms. Cassel thanked the presenters.

Susan Heberle expressed her pleasure that the Board is working towards decreasing the number of student contacts for teachers and hopefully, some day, they will achieve an even more reasonable level.

Mr. Heberle said he liked the middle school plan, but regarding math, he believes there needs to be more work done. He requested periodic information from Ms. Kotowski be provided to the Board.

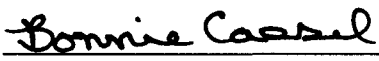


**Board Advisory Committee Reports**

None

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Board