

**RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2012
BOARD ROOM
6735 MAGNOLIA AVENUE, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA**

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mrs. Cloud, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Gayle Cloud, President; Dr. Charles L. Beaty, Vice President; Mrs. Kathy Allavie Clerk; and Mr. Tom Hunt, Member.

Also present were District Superintendent, Dr. Rick L. Miller, members of the staff, and other interested citizens.

Mrs. Patricia Lock-Dawson, Member arrived at the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON CLOSED SESSION MATTERS

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:15 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Consideration of Pupil Services Matters Pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:32 p.m. Mrs. Cloud announced that no formal action was taken by the Board during Closed Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to our flag was led by Taiyo Diamond, 6th grade Louisa May Alcott Elementary School student.

GROUP PERFORMANCE

The Matthew Gage Middle School Orchestra performed for the Board of Education.

SECTION A – PRESENTATION

A.1 Lizette Navarette, Jetta Hice and Brenda Flowers, Former/Outgoing Staff Members in the Riverside Office of the Mayor, Were Recognized as Recipients of the RUSD Honor Roll Award

SECTION B – REPORTS BY HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

B.1 Reports presented by Educational Options Center/Riverside Virtual School, John W. North High School, Riverside Polytechnic High School, and Ramona High School Student Board Representatives.

SECTION C– PUBLIC INPUT

The following individuals spoke to the Board of Education: Ms. Raychele Sterling thanked the Board for the work that has been done with her autistic daughter through Sunshine School, she also brought forward a complaint regarding a Riverside Polytechnic High School teacher on behalf of Ms. Vivian Moreno; Mr. William Prouty spoke about the Riverside College and Career Fair and requested that the Board consider adding a Parent Center; and Ms. Vivian Moreno further discussed the teacher complaint.

SECTION D – DISTRICT EMPLOYEE GROUP REPORTS

D.1 RASM Presentation by Mr. Gary Reller, President, Riverside Association of School Managers

D.2 RCTA Presentation by Mr. Tim Martin, President, Riverside City Teachers Association

SECTION E – SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

E.1 Board Communications Subcommittee Report

The Board of Education received a report from Mrs. Allavie regarding the Board Communications Subcommittee.

SECTION F – CONSENT

Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved by Dr. Beaty and seconded Mrs. Allavie and unanimously approved by members present. Items in the Consent Calendar have been published with the agenda and copies are on file in the District administrative offices.

SECTION G –REPORT/DISCUSSION

G.1 Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 29 Education Deferrals

Assemblyman Brian Nestande shared information and a PowerPoint slide about ACA 29 Education Deferrals. He also provided a packet of information to Board members.

The Board members agreed that this item should be sent to the Board Finance Subcommittee, then be agendaized for a future Board agenda before the end of the calendar year (to include a staff report with a resolution).

G.2 California Partnership Academies

Mrs. Cheryl Simmons, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services 7-12, introduced Mr. Chuck Hiroto, Director, Instructional Services 7-12, who reviewed a PowerPoint presentation with the state requirements that pertain to all of the RUSD academies. Ms. Erika Zuvia, Academy Coordinator, Ramona High School, shared information about the Health and Bioscience Academy at Ramona. A handout about each RUSD academy was provided to Board members for their information.

The following individuals spoke about this item: Mr. William Prouty provided a handout to the Board members, and Ms. Christina Duran discussed RUSD academy information being made available for students in elementary and middle schools (as was discussed by Board members and will be worked on through the Board Communications Subcommittee).

G.3 Lighted Schoolhouse – Status Report

Ms. Gloria Cowder, Director, Program Development and Extended Learning Opportunities, discussed a PowerPoint and provided an update on the proposed Lighted Schoolhouse concept. Mr. Raul Ayala, Principal, Highland Elementary School, provided background information for the Board members.

The Board took a break from 7:54 to 8:07 p.m.

G.4 Race to the Top – District (RTT-D)

Dr. Miller provided an introduction about RTT-D, and then Dr. David Haglund, Director, Educational Options, and Ms. Gloria Cowder, reviewed a PowerPoint and discussed the status of the RTT-D grant application and provided an Application Narrative for the Board members information.

The following individual spoke about RTT-D: Ms. Stephanie Dingman

SECTION H – CONCLUSION**H.1 Board Members' Comments**

Mrs. Lock-Dawson said in December that it is coming up on a year that she has been serving on the Board of Education, and she thanked her fellow Board members for their patience and mentorship. She specifically thanked Mrs. Allavie for her leadership on the Board Communications Subcommittee, and she commended her work on the OrangeAID project for the Riverside Art Museum. She talked about her interest in College and Career Pathway for RUSD students, and that she will be discussing this in more detail with Dr. Miller.

Dr. Beaty mentioned that the Elementary Principals' Summits are complete and that it is fascinating what is going on at the school sites. He suggested that a thank you note be sent to Mr. Gordon Bourns thanking him for hosting the STEP Conference. He mentioned his attendance at Arlington High School's drive a Ford, sponsored by Fritts Ford last Saturday; the Riverside Educational Enrichment Foundation (REEF) Citrus Classic (he commended Mrs. Sandy Ramirez, REEF, President, and Mr. Michael Fine, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services and Governmental Relations, for their hard work in preparing for and during the event); the Riverside College and Career Fair; and the Martin Luther King High School Navy Celebration.

Mrs. Allavie concurred with Dr. Beaty's comments regarding the Principals' Summits and stated that they have been very helpful. She discussed the proposal that Assemblyman Nestande presented, and suggested that this could be an opportunity for RUSD to fix the hole in the proposal and to make a statement that could help deal with these issues through a resolution.

Mr. Hunt indicated that he enjoyed the Riverside College and Career Fair. He reported that the Mayor asked him to look into the Richardson Prep High Middle School, in San Bernardino – 612 students, 499 receive free and reduced lunch, 67 percent Latino, 15 percent white, 12 percent African-American; they received a 927 on their API growth score. He requested that staff find out what this school is doing right. Mr. Hunt also mentioned Middle College High, in Colton – 69 percent Latino, and they scored 892 on their API. He mentioned that staff recently provided information on the Orange County School for the Arts and reported that it does not fit our model. Mr. Hunt stated that he would like more information provided from staff.

Mr. Hunt reported that on Tuesday night he was invited to attend the Casa Blanca Community Action Group (CAG) meeting. He mentioned the concerns that they discussed at their meeting related to the children in their area attending six different elementary schools. Mr. Hunt provided handouts and maps of the area for the Board members information. He stated that he would like to have the Board Operations Subcommittee look at this situation.

Mrs. Cloud suggested that a letter be sent to Mrs. Sandy Ramirez and REEF, thanking them for their hard work on the REEF Citrus Classic. She mentioned her attendance with Dr. Beaty at the Riverside African-American Historical Society event on October 14. Mrs. Cloud voiced her concerns related to Common Core and that the District needs to be careful and keep our focus on learning—she stated that this became very clear during the Principals' Summits.

H.2 Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Miller mentioned the STEP Conference, and that Mr. Gordon Bourns also extended a special invitation to our STEM Academy. He discussed his conversation with Ms. Cindy Roth, President/CEO, Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, who stated that parking has been a significant problem in the past at the Riverside Convention Center during the Riverside College and Career Fair. He mentioned his attendance at the Long Night of Arts and Innovation on October 4. He thanked Mr. Fine for assisting with the REEF Citrus Classic. He mentioned that on October 2, a University of California, Riverside (UCR) delegation from the Ministry of Education Thailand, looking at implementing technology from an instructional sense visited RUSD.

H.3 Next Board Meeting: October 29, 2012

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Cloud adjourned the Public Session at 9:12 p.m., in memory of Wade Coe's mother, Mrs. Linda Coe, an active community member; Mrs. Rosemary Bourns; Coach Bob Testa former high school football coach at Arlington, Ramona, and John W. North High Schools; and Ms. Gladys Preston, former librarian for RUSD.

Kathy Allavie
Clerk
Board of Education