

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT**Special Meeting of Board of Trustees****Fullerton Joint Union High School District Board Room****Tuesday, March 31, 1998****7:00 P.M.****MINUTES****1. GENERAL INFORMATION****1a. CALL TO ORDER**

The Special meeting of the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Robert Fisler on Tuesday, March 31, 1998 at 7:12 p.m. Jack Harlow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1b. ROLL CALL

Board Members:

- Robert Fisler, President
- Marjorie Pogue, Vice President
- Hilda Sugarman, Clerk
- Kim Guth, Member
- Anthony Valla, Member

Administration:

- Ron Cooper, Superintendent
- Karin Lynch, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
- Linda Caillet, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
- Patricia Godfrey, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
- Marie Sweet, Secretary to the Superintendent

Other:

- Fred Good, Consultant, PJHM Architects
- Benjamin Dolinka, Consultant, David Taussig and Associates

1c. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Alan Morton, community member, spoke to the Board reiterating his request for the

Board to televise their meetings. Mr. Morton also noted his concern with the behavior of Board members at the Board table.

2. ACTION ITEM

2a. AWARD BID FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS/NETWORK CABLING AND EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM (ERATE)

Mr. Tony Anderson, Director of Information Services, presented an overview of the events leading to the bid response on this project. Mr. Anderson stated that if the District receives Erate funding, the District would be reimbursed 20 percent of the total cost/bid. The Nicolas School project bid was \$77,450 (District cost \$15,490); the Raymond School project was bid at \$83,211 (District cost \$16,603); the Orangethorpe School project was bid at \$83,757 (District cost \$16,752). Mr. Anderson noted that Orangethorpe also requested bids for cable TV outlets in all classrooms and has budgeted for the \$5,475 bid. Mr. Anderson noted that each site has budgeted for the District cost of 20 percent of the project bids.

Alan Morton, community member, voiced his concern that this project would be funded by a nonprofit organization whose executives earn in excess of \$100,000. Mr. Morton inquired as to the nonprofit status of Digital Network Corporation. Mr. Anderson responded that Digital Network Corporation was a profit organization and noted that the Schools and Libraries Corporation was set up by the Federal Communications Commission to administer the Universal Service Program for schools and libraries. Mr. Morton also inquired as to the specifications of the cabling and noted his concern that there was only one bid response.

Conrad DeWitte, community member, voiced his concern that the District received only one bid response.

Sandy Moore, community member, requested to receive more information on this project and offered her services in the area of computers.

Trustee Guth noted her serious reservations in approving a contract with only one bid.

Moved by Hilda Sugarman, seconded by Marjorie Pogue and carried unanimously that the Board of Trustees award the bid for telecommunications cabling and equipment for Nicolas Junior High School, Orangethorpe Elementary School and Raymond Elementary School (FSD Project 97-98-25) to Digital Networks Corporation in the total amount of \$249,993.00.

3. WORKSHOP ON REOPENING OF BEECHWOOD SCHOOL

3a. REOPENING OF BEECHWOOD SCHOOL

Superintendent Ron Cooper gave an overview of the Special Board meeting on March 11 as it related to the reopening of Beechwood School. Dr. Cooper reported that, in response to the Board's request, he and staff members Konnie Gault and Dr. Patricia Godfrey, along with consultants Benjamin Dolinka and Fred Good, visited several magnet schools to observe programs.

The following people spoke to the Board:

Larry Spadt and Kristine Spadt, Beechwood community members, urged the Board to reopen Beechwood as a K-6 school.

Ursula Oleksyn, Raymond parent, stated that she collected signatures from 60 parents on a petition to support a back to basics focus magnet school. She requested that the Board conduct a formal survey of parents on the reopening of Beechwood.

Matthew Atwong, community member, urged the Board to reopen Beechwood as a back to basics school with an emphasis on academics.

James Atonaw, Beechwood community member, voiced his concern with traffic problems if Beechwood were to open as a specialized school. He urged the Board to reopen Beechwood as a neighborhood school.

Nan Alvarez-Gray, community member, encouraged the Board to poll the community. She stated that her personal view is to have a back to basics school.

Conrad DeWitte, community member, expressed his desire to reopen Beechwood as a magnet academy school for low achieving students with an emphasis on academics.

Marsha Stanford, community member, urged the Board to consider a fundamental back to basics school. She also urged that the Board poll the community for their input.

Thomas Littlefair, Buena Park resident, noted that although he attended the meeting as a requirement for a class, he would like to see Beechwood open as a fundamental back to basics school.

Michael McKay, Beechwood community member expressed his desire to have Beechwood reopen as a neighborhood school. He also suggested that since there was a concern for a "back to basics approach" that all schools be "back to basics schools."

Dena Mavritsakis, Rolling Hills parent, expressed her desire to have Beechwood open as a neighborhood school. She also stated that the Board needs to address the student enrollment growth in the area.

Karoline Steavenson, spoke to the Board on her concern with magnet schools stating that Fullerton School District has a growing diversity. She reiterated Mr. DeWitte's suggestion for a magnet school for disadvantaged students.

Sandy Moore, community member, expressed her desire to have freedom of choice and would like to see Beechwood offered as a school that is academics only. She noted that "back to basics" should have a criteria for parental involvement.

Leonard Zivitz, community member, voiced his concern with a magnet school, and urged the Board to reopen Beechwood as a neighborhood school.

Mr. Fred Good reviewed the pros and cons for the options being considered by the Board to reopen Beechwood.

Mr. Good addressed several dates: 1) In order to meet the schedule for Fall 1999 opening, and to submit plans to the State architect, the Board needs to give direction for CSR by Memorial Day weekend of 1998; 2) Architectural plans for Beechwood need to be delivered to the State Architect by Labor Day, 1998.

Each Board member gave their input as to what options they would like to pursue to reopen Beechwood School. Board consensus was to pursue Option 3 (K-6 neighborhood school) and Option 4b (back to basics/fundamental emphasis) and to poll the community as to their expectations of a fundamental school (giving the definition of a fundamental school).

Jane McGlocklin, community member, suggested that a definition of a fundamental school be sent out with the survey to parents.

Conrad DeWitte, community member, suggested that since the cheapest plan to reopen Beechwood School is \$1.1 million, that the District should reopen negotiations with the Fullerton Joint Union High School District to receive more funding for restoration of the site. Trustee Sugarman responded that the cost to reopen Beechwood as a new school is more costly than to restore Beechwood to its original state.

Steven Ludlem, community member, stated that Beechwood doesn't need to be a specialized school but in fact what makes a good school are the good teachers, administrators and parent involvement.

ADJOURNMENT

President Robert Fisler adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m. on March 31, 1998.

Hilda Sugarman, Clerk

Board of Trustees