

**CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADOPTED MINUTES**

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>September 28, 2010</u>
Place:	<u>City Hall – Mike Balkman Council Chambers 9770 Culver Boulevard Culver City 90232</u>	Time:	<u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting 6:01 p.m. – Closed Session 7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>

Board Members Present

Steven Gourley, President
Scott Zeidman, Esq., Vice President
Karlo Silbiger, Clerk
Katherine Paspalis, Esq., Member
Patricia G. Siever, Professor, Member

Staff Members Present

Patricia W. Jaffe, Interim Superintendent
Ali Delawalla
Gwenis Laura, Ed.S.

Call to Order

Board President Mr. Gourley called the meeting of the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 7:00 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Mrs. Madeline Ehrlich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Closed Session

Mr. Gourley reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session regarding issues listed on today's Closed Session agenda and announced that no reportable actions were taken.

Mr. Gourley opened the meeting by thanking staff and everyone who contributed to getting the meeting moved to the City Council Chambers. Mr. Gourley asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Aaron Green, Sally Gardner, and Jin Sung Kwak. He also spoke about how active Mr. Kwak was in the community.

8. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board adopt the September 28, 2010 agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. Consent Agenda

Mr. Gourley called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any items. Mr. Silbiger requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn. Ms. Paspalis requested that items 9.2 and 9.4 be withdrawn. Mr. Zeidman requested that item 9.7 be withdrawn.

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.6 Approval for Tracy Pumilia, El Marino Principal, and Mina Shiratori, El Marino Teacher, to Travel to Washington, DC for the FLAP Roundtable Meeting, October 12-14, 2010

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Special Meeting – August 31, 2010; and Regular Meeting – September 14, 2010

Mr. Silbiger requested that this item be removed to make the following amendments. He requested to add onto the August 31, 2010 Minutes that he was present, but arrived late at 4:15 p.m. On the September 14, 2010 Minutes he requested clarification regarding the Principal's presentations. He added under his comments in item 12.1 that when the principals make their presentations on AYP/API scores that the information should include the reasons for current success, any reasons for current struggles, and their action plans. There should be no data included.

9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders

Ms. Paspalis requested additional information on PO#55734. Mr. Delawalla explained that the company analyzes

the Medi-Cal billing. If the company generates revenue for the District then they also get a percentage. Ms. Paspalis inquired about PO#55769 which Mr. Delawalla explained was for special education student services. Mr. Zeidman asked if we knew how many students this amount was for. Mr. Delawalla stated the amount paid was just an estimate. Ms. Paspalis wanted to point out that services for Special Education is about 75% of the purchase orders. Ms. Siever asked what the budget was for special education and requested quarterly reports on expenses. Ms. Siever also asked if we send special education students to Santa Monica or Beverly Hills. Mr. Delawalla responded that we do send students to those school districts, but the purchase orders were for services that the other school districts do not provide. Mr. Zeidman inquired about PO#55699. Mr. Delawalla responded that it was for membership in the Tri-City SELPA.

9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 6

Ms. Paspalis pointed out a duplicate on item 9.4j. Mr. Gourley stated staff was aware of the duplication and will make the correction. Ms. Siever commended and thanked staff for putting the total amounts spent in the report as she previously requested.

9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 6

Ms. Siever requested to see the costs per hour on the report if possible.

9.7 Approval is Recommended for the Compensation Report of the Members of the Board of Education

Mr. Zeidman asked Mr. Delawalla what the hard cap was on the insurance per year. Mr. Delawalla responded \$11,000.00 per year and the hard cap has remained the same this year, and there is no difference in employee groups. Mr. Zeidman asked if any of the Board members exceeded the hard cap. Mr. Delawalla responded no.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 as amended; and Items 9.2 – 9.7 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Gourley acknowledged Mr. George Laase to speak. Mr. Laase commented that there was another Board member taking full advantage of health benefits. He stated that by Board members taking full benefits, it almost doubled the Board member compensation. He was disappointed that there was a six month delay in getting the information out on what benefits the Board members were receiving. He stated that the public has the right to know about a dramatic increase in monies being spent on benefits. Mr. Gourley stated that he thought the information was being reported in a timely fashion, and that all Board members have the right to receive the benefits offered to them.

12. Information Items

12.2 ID Badges and Lanyards

Mr. Zeidman asked the Board if they would mind moving item 12.2 up on the agenda since the principal was in attendance. Mr. Jonathan Pearson, Middle School Principal, stated he did not feel it was necessary for students at the middle school to have ID lanyards. He explained that they currently have IDs that they carry in their wallets, and the cost for new ID lanyards would be approximately \$2,000 which would have to be funded by one of the school organizations. Jody Reichle commented that she did not agree with the middle school students possibly having ID lanyards. She felt it could pose a safety issue. Jerry Chabola said that since the high school implemented ID lanyards the campus is cleaner overall and there is a spirit of camaraderie. He thinks students have responded well to the idea. Ms. Siever stated that she respects the principals and the parent's knowledge of what is happening at the school sites. She felt if they did not feel it was necessary to implement ID badges at the middle school then she did not feel it was necessary either. Ms. Paspalis agreed. Mr. Silbiger agreed, but stated that if it was implemented at the high school that the teachers did not need to stop class time to check badges. He previously heard that this was happening in some classrooms at the high school. Mr. Zeidman stated that the Board decided the high school should have them, but the middle school could be left up to staff.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**10.2 Presentation by Senator Curren Price to La Ballona Elementary School**

Mrs. Jaffe introduced Senator Curren Price who made a Resolution presentation to Christine Collins, Principal of La Ballona Elementary. The Resolution was to honor the school for being designated as one of California's Distinguished Schools.

10.1 Presentation by Tracy Pumilia and Mina Shiratori – FLAP Grant

Mrs. Tracy Pumilia, Principal at El Marino Elementary, and El Marino FLAP Grant Coordinator Mina Shiratori, presented an update on programs funded through the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) Grant. They also spoke about how the program could be improved regarding the continuity for the immersion students through the twelfth grade. Board members were all in agreement and supportive of improving the configuration of the programs in the District. Mr. Silbiger, who went through the Immersion Program, shared what he thought were the weakest points of the program when he was in attendance. Madeline Ehrlich who has been involved in immersion for 31 years provided the Board with her proposal to make a more viable dual language program at the middle school level. Amy Ehrlich who graduated from the high school and went through the immersion program shared her thoughts, and also felt that the program had been a little disorganized. Claudia Descal, a parent in the District, stated she chose for her child to go to Edison Academy in Santa Monica because of their immersion program. She stated she chose Edison Academy because she was disappointed in the immersion program at the middle school. Casey Chabola stated one solution could be to offer independent study physical education. Jenny Manriquez stated her passions about the immersion program and was in support of Mrs. Ehrlich's proposal. Ms. Manriquez said she supported the previous Superintendent's idea to have a task force to discuss issues pertaining to the immersion program.

11. Public Recognition**11.4 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Niko Walker commented that the school offers water but that the students have to pay for it now. He would like to see this matter on an agenda. He felt that if you pay the same price for lunch you should be able to get the same thing, and not have to pay extra for water. He also informed the Board that many of the water fountains do not work or the water is warm.
- Raul Garcia, the newly elected Student Body President shared some items that were on his list of concerns and stated he was proud to be a former La Ballona student. He suggested having the high school students go to the elementary schools to tutor and receive service hours.
- Carmen Jovel stated that she decided to skip the immersion program once she entered the middle school.

Mr. Gourley stated that Ms. Paspalis requested to have recess at 9:00 p.m.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 8:56 p.m. and reconvened at 9:14 p.m.

11.4 Members of the Audience – cont.

- Debbie Hamme commented on the lack of a librarian at Linwood Howe Elementary and El Marino Elementary. She stated that the Union said no to the District's proposal of having a 3.9 hour position. Mrs. Hamme informed the Board that last year the District tried having a rotation of the librarians and it did not work. She was surprised to hear the District was considering taking the same action. She also confirmed as the ACE President that the ACE members never had an organized sick-out last year. She stated she hoped the Board would readdress the issue of having a librarian at all of the schools.
- Maggie Marquez, Library Clerk, commented that one year ago the Librarian left at Linwood Howe and the position has remained vacant. She was disappointed with the lack of priorities in the District.
- Alan Elmont spoke in support of hiring a Librarian Clerk. He felt that all of the elementary schools should be staffed with this position, and also felt that it was an issue of priorities. He encouraged the Board to find a way to hire someone as early in the school year as possible.

- Carey Anderson commented on the double and triple parking at Linwood Howe Elementary during pick-up and drop-off times. He shared information on a drop-off program, and possibly working with the Downtown Business Association of Culver City. Mr. Zeidman informed him about the response that the District has received from the DBA which was not working with the District because they do not need additional parking.

11.3 Student Representatives' Reports

Middle School Student Representative

There is no Culver City Middle School Student Representative at this time to report on activities at Culver City Middle School.

Culver Park Student Representative

Mrs. Jaffe introduced Sandra Maldonado as the new representative for Culver Park High School. Miss Maldonado reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including Picture Day for school IDs; the school having discussions about opening up a Student Store; and students preparing for the CAHSEE before and after school.

Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member

Jamie MacIntosh, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including the First Clubs Assembly; the College Faire; the upcoming Blood Drive; Back to School Night; the announcement of the Homecoming theme; and the students at the high school supporting the middle school students during their campaigning. Miss MacIntosh also informed the Board about the deterioration of Robert Frost Auditorium. She stated that the curtains are a fire hazard, the speakers do not work, there are chairs broken, tiles in the ceiling are broken, and other problems. She stated that the students would like to know what can be done. Mr. Gourley and Mr. Zeidman commended Miss MacIntosh on her report and told her that these items could possibly be addressed at an October meeting where capital improvements will be discussed. Ms. Siever also commended both students on their reports.

11.1 Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Jaffe reported that Mrs. Patty Eskridge had been named one of the Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year. Mrs. Jaffe stated that she has slowly been receiving committee applications. The first Administrative Council took place and staff felt that the educational plan had not been updated for several years. She said the principals asked during the meeting what the Board would like to see in their reports at future Board meetings. Mrs. Jaffe reported on her attendance at the upcoming meeting with the Superintendents from Tri-City SELPA, and that Ms. Davis had a meeting to discuss getting special education costs down.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Ms. Laura reported on the October administration of the CAHSEE; two math projects being implemented at the school sites; one cyber-bullying project that had been approved; and her observation of the math GLearning program at La Ballona Elementary.

Mr. Delawalla reported that it was the 90th day that the State still did not have an approved budget. He stated that it was difficult to work on a day-to-day basis with no budget. Mr. Delawalla stated that he would follow up on the student concerns with the water fountains and Robert Frost the following day.

Jerry Chabola commented that over the years some of the water fountains have deteriorated. He stated some had been fixed and some had been shut-off. He suggested putting in a water dispensing machine.

11.5 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Siever stated she was happy to be at the City and pleased to hear comments from the community.
- Ms. Paspalis reported on her attendance at the middle school Back to School Night and stated it was great. She also reported on her attendance at the Teacher of the Year event which was fun.

- Mr. Silbiger thanked the City for allowing the District to hold the meeting in the Council Chambers. He also thanked Mrs. Jaffe and staff for their hard work in getting the meeting moved. He asked for the cost estimate again to get the meetings permanently moved to the Chambers. He reported on his attendance at the Farragut Back to School Night and he thought it was great. He also inquired about supervision at the middle school.
- Mr. Zeidman commented on how impressed he was with staff that items are getting placed on the agenda in such a timely fashion. He said it was nice to have such a response to the Board, and that it was different and wonderful.
- Ms. Paspalis inquired if Mrs. Jaffe had gotten a response from the City regarding having a Liaison Meeting. Mrs. Jaffe provided an update that it was being followed up on, but there was no date yet.
- Ms. Siever gave thanks to Rebecca Williams for all of her efforts and hard work in getting the meeting moved, and all that she does to assist the Superintendent.
- Mr. Gourley inquired about if an application was received from James Harris. He also asked if a walk around was scheduled with TRANE. Mr. Gourley reiterated that it was nice to get responses from staff so quickly, and that it was a pleasant change from previous years.

12. Information Items

12.1 Culver City Unified Bell Schedules

Mrs. Jaffe explained the current bell schedules and provided the Board with the pros and cons that she received from the Principals regarding changing the schedule. The Board requested that additional information come back regarding the impact on interventions, and arguments why it would or would not be effective.

Mr. Zeidman stated the schedule would not go into effect until next year, so it was fine to bring it back in January. All Board members agreed.

12.3 First Reading of Revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 6164.6 – Identification and Education Under Section 504

Board members reviewed the policy and administrative regulation, and provided their suggestions for revisions. The information will be brought back to the next meeting for a review of revisions.

14. Action Items

14.1 Superintendent's Items - None

14.2 Education Services Items

14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Consultant Services Agreement with the Culver City Unified School District for 2010-2011

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Mr. Silbiger that the Board approve the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Consultant Services Agreement with the Culver City Unified School District for 2010-2011 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Business Items – None

14.4 Personnel Items – None

15. Board Business

15.1 Goals and Objectives of the Board

Ms. Siever thanked the Board for letting her move forward on her request. She provided the Board with a draft of the Goals and Objectives; and Overarching Goals. She stated that she would like to hear from Board members on their opinions or suggestions. Mr. Gourley thanked her for taking the lead on this project. He also asked if Ms. Siever had been in touch with CSBA and advised them of the Board's view on the CSBA's recent activities and actions in bad faith. Ms. Siever stated that she had been in touch with them and forwarded Mr. Gourley's letter. She said that a representative from CSBA stated that they would be happy to come and speak to the Board.

Mr. Gourley addressed Mr. Silbiger’s idea of having the Student Board Member vote. Mr. Gourley did not think it was feasible. He stated that they are not elected officials and may not even be old enough to vote yet.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Paspalis, seconded by Ms. Siever and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Gourley adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m. in memory of Aaron Green, Jin Sung Kwak, and Sally Gardner.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary