

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

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>March 22, 2011</u>
Place:	<u>City Hall</u>	Time:	<u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>
	<u>Mike Balkman Chambers</u>		<u>6:01 p.m. – Closed Session</u>
	<u>9100 Culver Boulevard</u>		<u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>
	<u>Culver City 90232</u>		

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

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

Call to Order

Board President Mr. Zeidman 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 7:04 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Gustavo Cruz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Closed Session

Mr. Zeidman 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.

8. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Zeidman moved to amend the agenda by moving 10.1 to the top of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Paspalis. The motion was unanimously approved to adopt the March 22, 2011 agenda as amended.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations

10.1 AVPA Recognition/Music, Dance and Theater

Ms. Laura introduced Dr. Tony Spano, Music Director and Co-Executive Director of the AVPA. Dr. Spano thanked the Board for inviting the AVPA students to be at the meeting and for their recognition. He took the opportunity to thank and acknowledge on behalf of the other AVPA Directors, Mrs. Jaffe, and the District administration and staff; Mrs. Pam Magee, high school administration and staff; the AVPA, Founding Sponsor Janice Pober and Sony Entertainment, and Kathy McConkey. Ms. Laura introduced the students involved with the AVPA music, dance, and theater, and asked them to come before the Board to be acknowledged.

9. Consent Agenda

Mr. Zeidman called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any item. David Mielke requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn. Ms. Siever requested that item 9.1 and 9.5 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.3, 9.4, 9.6 and 9.7 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 16

9.6 Acceptance of Enrollment Report

9.7 Single Plan for Student Achievement – Culver City Middle School

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 8, 2011

Ms. Siever requested on page 90 to change the word from “revisions” to “corrections.”

9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders and Warrants

Mr. Mielke questioned how many students were included in the item mentioned in PO#55803, and for how long. Mr. Delawalla did not have the number of students, but explained it was for a year's services for an occupational therapist. Mr. Mielke referenced PO#56433 to Maleman Inc. Mr. Mielke recommended not paying a P.R. Consultant, and to have the Superintendent write updates to the community. Regarding PO#56435, Mr. Mielke suggested having someone in-house provide this service. Ms. Siever commented on the special education charges on pages two and three. She was curious to know why the three SELPA districts could not come together to try to save money. Mrs. Jaffe explained that the SELPA Directors are having a meeting on Thursday to discuss some ideas. Mrs. Jaffe added that in regards to Therapy West the District was looking at opening up its own occupational clinic.

9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 16

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to thank Mr. Delawalla and his staff for providing a summary with the report. Mr. Delawalla stated that the credit was actually due to Mrs. Lockhart and her staff in Human Resources.

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 as amended, and 9.2 and 9.5 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

11. Public Recognition**11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Jaffe stated that the Board would be hearing a presentation on the Second Interim which she thought was important for everyone to have a clear picture of the financial condition of the District. She reported on her attendance at AVPA's performance of "Urinetown" and commended the students and staff for all of their hard work. Mrs. Jaffe also reported on her attendance along with Mrs. Pam Magee, and Ms. Janice Pober from Sony, at LACMA on March 17th for a tour. The tours were led by three AVPA art students who are interns at LACMA. All of the students did an outstanding job. She extended congratulations to the high school for their honor of being placed on the AP Achievement List as a 2010-2011 AP Achievement School. Mrs. Jaffe also informed the Board that the administration and staff are gaining prominence as many are being asked to make presentations at conferences to discuss topics such as closing the achievement gap, and other topics that the District has excelled in.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Ms. Laura reported on her attendance at AVPA's presentation of "Cootie Shots" and thought it was great. It will be performed at all of the elementary schools and discusses the topic of bullying. Students were able to interact with the actors and it was enjoyed by all. This month is R-30 month which means that the District is required to report the languages spoken by the students.

11.3 Student Representatives' Reports**Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member**

Jamie MacIntosh, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including tonight's Food Fundraiser of which she extended an invitation to all; the success of the sold-out Sadie Hawkins Dance; the Spring Break vacation coming up next week; a yard sale on April 23rd on the Senior Lawn; the last Blood Drive of the year taking place on April 22nd; the Multi-cultural Assembly was very successful; currently having a fundraiser for the water crisis; Global Awareness Week was this week; a fundraiser in all of the classrooms for the Japan tsunami; Springfest will take place on May 26th; and Shadow Day will be this Thursday where students get to follow someone in an occupation that they are interested in.

Culver Park Student Representative

Sandra Maldonado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including Student Council working on a Shoes for Souls project to provide shoes for people in need. Students are also researching on how they can help the victims in Japan not only with money, but other necessities that are needed. Miss Maldonado also reported that students are working very hard, and juniors are finishing classes quickly. At least two juniors will be graduating with the senior class this year. Competition

Finals for the Student of the Year are this week and Miss Maldonado is representing Culver Park. The results will be in after Spring Break.

Middle School Student Representative

Sophia Greenberg, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver City Middle School, including the activities that the students are doing to raise awareness regarding the disaster in Japan; an update on the Jog-A-Thon which has raised \$27,000; cheerleader tryouts in April; students are going on a trip to Boston; and the CCMS Idol finalists performing on Friday. The winners will get a \$50 Visa Card to spend, second place will get \$25, and third place winners will get \$15.

11.4 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Kelly Nolan commented on the teacher layoffs. She stated that she has been laid off four times in the five years she has worked in the District as a teacher, and each time she was brought back. She thanked the Board and the administration for always having a job for her to come back to, and stated that she has confidence that the Board will find a way to bring back the teachers that are laid off. Ms. Nolan also stated that she was not in support of cutting the administrative positions. She stated that administration is her support and some of the positions keep her safe. She suggested doing “across the Board” pay cuts where everyone feels the pain. Ms. Nolan stated that she feels she has a home in Culver City, and she thanked Mr. Mielke, the Board, and the administration.
- David Mielke wanted to publicly congratulate Mrs. Jaffe on her appointment as Superintendent. He stated that his only issue was with the salary that was in her contract. Mr. Mielke stated that the package offered to Mrs. Jaffe, including longevity, was not available on the website. He thinks it is important that the community has accurate information. Mr. Mielke stated that cutting the teachers and cutting the school year is not good.
- Jody Reichel wanted to let the Board know about the PTA Sacramento Safari Delegation trip. The safari is a chance for PTA members to learn about legislation. The trip was very educational, and also fascinating to hear from other students on what is happening in their districts. She thanked the Board and everyone in administration for working so hard with so little. Ms. Reichel urged everyone to write their legislators and representatives to urge them to extend the taxes that were set to expire.
- Janet Chabola stated that it seems to be easy say to get rid of administrators, but they are glue that holds the District together. Administrators work nights and weekends and a lot of times teachers are not expected to work night and weekend duty. Mrs. Chabola read an article titled “Knowledge” that spoke about the roles and responsibilities of middle managers and intermediaries. She stated that she is not in agreement of cutting administrators.
- Jerry Chabola stated that he would like to see CBAC reestablished. After attending some of the budget meetings he quickly realized that many in attendance did not have a lot of knowledge on the budget. He thanked the AYSO Program for their work they did on the fields before the rains came. Mr. Chabola also thanked the Culver City Rotary for sponsoring the Culver City High School Track Invitational. He said it was quite successful. The pancake breakfast proceeds went to the Culver City Diversion Program. He also thanked all of the coaches for all of their hard work and for making this year a great year.
- Brad Hodge stated that he thought education was supposed to be an inverse pyramid with the students at the top. Unfortunately education has turned the pyramid around and students seem to be at the bottom. Mr. Hodge stated it that it troubles him that people expect teachers to pay for public education at of their pocket. He feels that that is what the Board is asking teachers to do by asking them to take pay cuts. Mr. Hodge stated that he participated in all of the surveys that took place regarding a parcel tax, and reminded Culver City that the first amount considered for a parcel tax was \$250 and the amount kept going down until it was \$96. The residents have agreed to pay the \$96 and the Board is asking teachers to take a pay cut. He did not think that made sense and urged the Board to maybe take a look at raising the parcel tax.

11.4 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Silbiger thanked everyone who made it possible for Board meetings to be held at City Hall. He reported on his attendance at the production of “Urinetown” and stated that the only thing he did not enjoy was sitting on the seats at Robert Frost. He is anticipating the start of the renovations for the auditorium. He reported on the Culver City Youth Health Center event and thanked Mr. Zeidman and Ms. Siever for attending. Mr. Silbiger wanted to clear up some misconceptions about the Superintendent contract. He reiterated that he is happy with Mrs. Jaffe being named as Superintendent, but he was not in agreement with the contract. Mr. Silbiger did not feel that the salary comparison was accurate since it did not include longevity and other benefits. He also spoke about the aspects of the contract that he was in agreement with such as a review after 15 months, the over amount of health coverage, and other items. Further discussion ensued regarding the contracts. Mr. Zeidman confirmed with Mr. Delawalla that the statutory benefits were for all employees, including teachers.
- Ms. Siever welcomed the new Superintendent. She thanked the faculty and the administration for improving the academic standards of the African-American students. She reported on her attendance at the Culver City Youth Health Center event and thought it was great and wished the honorees well. Next week she will be attending a Los Angeles County School Trustee’s meeting as the District’s delegate and she will report back to the Board. Ms. Siever would like clarification on Mr. Delawalla’s figures by the District’s expert at a later date, but she is very happy with Mrs. Jaffe.
- Ms. Paspalis thought she would share a little about what is being considered to cut. She stated that we have heard a lot about teacher cuts which are at the elementary and high school. The middle school was hit hard last year. The administrative staff was hit hard also, but they do not come and speak at the meetings. Ms. Paspalis read a list of recent cuts over the years to certificated and classified administration. Certificated staff included the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, the Director of Special Projects, one elementary Assistant Principal, the Coordinator of State and Federal Programs, the Assistant Director of Child Welfare and Attendance, the Co-Director of OCD has been vacant for two years, Assistant Principals at the high school were cut from four to three, the Assistant Principals at the middle school were cut from three to two, the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources has been cut down to a Director position, the Director of Special Education has been cut to an Assistant Director of Special Education. On the classified positions, the cuts include the Budget Advisor Analyst, the Accounting Supervisor, the Director of Security position was cut to a Supervisor position and changed from twelve months to eleven months, and the Director of Fiscal Services position has been vacant for over a year. Ms. Paspalis stated with all the cuts to Mr. Delawalla’s department it is a wonder that he is able to get anything done. She felt it is amazing that the District has been able to keep in compliance with all the mandates from the federal government and the state.
- Mr. Gourley stated that there has not been a time that he has read any of Mr. Mielke updates to the union where he was completely accurate. Mr. Mielke neglected to mention that there were Board members that were in support of pink slipping more administrators and more teachers, or in support of everyone taking a pay reduction. This was not aimed at teachers only. The union through Mr. Mielke has always said no. They do not want tiered cuts. Mr. Gourley commented that last year when he mentioned the tiered pay cuts to Mr. Mielke he sued Mr. Gourley using union labor money and time. If Mr. Mielke did not inform his union of some of these facts he did not inform them of the whole truth. Mr. Gourley stated that he was happy to see some of the Mock Trial students also participating in AVPA. He stated that if it were not for two members of the Board there would be no AVPA because the previous Superintendent, Dr. Coté, kept insisting to cut the program. Mr. Gourley congratulated Mrs. Jaffe on her first full meeting as Superintendent. Mr. Gourley mentioned that when Mr. Mielke questions items on the Purchase Orders it is usually not about anything meaningful, and is petty. Mr. Mielke asked if there was a Board Policy that enforces personalized attacks. Mr. Zeidman responded yes and put the policy in enforcement. Mr. Gourley asked to please thank Mr. Geoff Maleman for his work in the District.

12. Information Items**12.1 First Reading of Revised Board Policy 5117, Students – Interdistrict Attendance**

The Board reviewed the Board Policy and it will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

12.2 Presentation of the Second Interim Report for 2010-2011

Mr. Delawalla presented the Second Interim to the Board and responded to questions from audience members and the Board.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 8:44 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

14. Action Items**14.1 Superintendent's Items****14.1a Approval is Recommended for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Beverly Hills Unified School District, Culver City Unified School District, The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Beverly Hills Unified School District, Culver City Unified School District, The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.1b Adopt Findings of Staff Report Denying Building Bridges International, Inc. Charter Petition

Mary Anne Greene, resident of Blair Hills stated her concerns regarding the use of the site for a school. She commented that during that years that the prior school was located on the site there were a number of traffic issues. Ms. Greene stated the community worked with the Rabbi of the school but there was no consideration from the parents. Annie C. Wilson, Blair Hills Association Co-President, stated her concerns with the charter school. She said that she was concerned with the traffic and the earthquake fault line. Ms. Wilson was also concerned about the number of students the school would have. Dr. Millicent Powell, Director of Building Bridges, spoke on behalf of the school. She thanked the Board and addressed some of the concerns that were mentioned. Dr. Powell reiterated that they do not want to come and “reek havoc” on the District and she can understand the stated concerns. She would like to have a spirit of collaboration and cooperation. Dr. Powell felt that the staff report was filled with distortions and flat out lies. She stated it seemed as if the Board was leaning towards a denial. She addressed the issue stated in the report about her Board not having enough educational experience. Mr. Gourley thanked all of her supporters for writing and sharing their comments. He said they were all very respectful. Mr. Gourley stated he understands the issue of traffic and asked about the scope of student population and the plan for traffic mitigation. Dr. Powell said they have high expectations and they would like to bus all of the children in. Dr. Powell stated for the K-8 program there would be about 450 students maximum, and that the middle school might not be housed there. Ms. Siever inquired about the fault underneath the property. Dr. Powell stated that there was a fault funning on the west side of the property, and they can build on the east side and include modifications. Further discussion ensued and included questions about a possible gas line. Dr. Powell stated that the engineer at Chevron said it was a clean gas line funning from El Segundo to Culver City and approximately six inches in diameter. Mr. Silbiger inquired if the charter would have a unionized workforce. Dr. Powell stated no. Mr. Silbiger inquired about their immersion program and Dr. Powell said that they would be using the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools model. Their program would not be as comprehensive as the District's immersion program. Mr. Silbiger stated that he did not think the District would lose many students and he was very disappointed with the staff report. He does have concerns about the location, and he has a big problem with the unionization issues, recruitment, and the budget. He suggested approving it conditionally and requesting an MOU. **Ms. Paspalis would like to move the original motion primarily based on the staff report, and what was read in the content standards. Ms. Paspalis felt that there were hundreds of pages of content standards, that was general information and did not provide any real direction, understanding, or meaning. She stated that there was no real plan to address special education students or English learners. As an attorney with a background in environmental law Ms. Paspalis was also concerned about traffic issues and site issues. She has concerns about having an active school on the site with the**

environmental issues that she knows are present at the site. Ms. Siever seconded the motion. Ms. Siever stated that she had concerns that there did not seem to be a plan regarding the building issue with the number of students. She said there was nothing really addressing this issue and she cannot vote for it. Mr. Gourley also stated that he had a problem with the site and traffic issues. Mr. Zeidman stated that he has reviewed all of the information and the Board cannot deny the petition based on unionization or location. He believes it should be denied without any conditions. Further discussion ensued. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board deny Building Bridges International, Inc. Charter Petition as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-Ayes and 1 – Nay by Mr. Silbiger.

14.1c Receipt of Petition from Innovate! Charter School Submitted by Kids Achieve! Foundation

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve receipt of the petition from Innovate! Charter School Submitted by Kids Achieve! Foundation as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2 Education Services

14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Resolution Regarding Enrollment Capacity

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Resolution Regarding Enrollment Capacity as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Business Items

14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Certification of the Second Interim Report for 2010-2011

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Certification of the Second Interim Report for 2010-2011 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3b Approval is Recommended for the Rejection of Claim

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Rejection of Claim as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.4 Personnel Items – None

15. Board Business

15.1 Discussion Regarding Board Goals and Objectives

Ms. Siever stated that the goals and objectives have been previously brought before the Board and asked the Board to let Mrs. Jaffe know if they agree with the goals. Ms. Siever also asked that the Board forward any suggestions or recommendations to Mrs. Jaffe. Mr. Zeidman stated that he would like to approve the goals and objectives at the meeting in April.

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. Zeidman adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m. in memory of Dana Bilbao.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary