

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>May 10, 2011</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>District Administration Office</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>
	<b><u>4034 Irving Place</u></b>		<b><u>6:01 p.m. – Closed Session</u></b>
	<b><u>Culver City 90232</u></b>		<b><u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>

**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 7:00 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Rick Barclay 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**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board adopt the May 10, 2011 agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**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. Ms. Siever requested that items 9.2 and 9.4 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Mr. Silbiger that the Board approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1, 9.3, and 9.4 – 9.13 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.1 Minutes of Special Meeting – March 16, 2011; Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 22, 2011; and Minutes of Special Meeting – April 12, 2011
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 19
- 9.6 Single Plan for Student Achievement – El Rincon Elementary School
- 9.7 CCHS Teacher Rachel Snyder to attend The College Board Readings in Kansas City, Missouri, May 31 - June 8, 2011
- 9.8 CCHS Boys' Lacrosse Team to Attend a Tournament in San Diego, CA, June 24-25, 2011
- 9.9 CCHS Girls' Basketball Team to Attend a Tournament in San Diego, CA, July 14-17, 2011
- 9.10 CCHS Girls' Basketball Team to Attend a Tournament in Tempe, Arizona, July 21-26, 2011
- 9.11 Andrew Sotelo, Director of Pupil Services, to Attend the Seventh Seminar for International Spanish Academy Principals, May 15-18, 2011 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- 9.12 Acceptance of the Compensation Report of the Members of the Board of Education
- 9.13 Proclamation in Recognition of Classified Employee Appreciation Week (May 15-21, 2011)

**9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders**

Ms. Siever requested this item be withdrawn to request that Mr. Delawalla include the remaining balances. Mr. Delawalla informed Ms. Siever that she would be receiving that information when he presents the unaudited actuals. Ms. Siever had additional questions regarding page six. She asked if the charges were for SELPA and Special Education. Mr. Delawalla informed Ms. Siever of the charges and explained how the expenses for

SELPA are paid.

#### **9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 19**

Ms. Siever requested this item be withdrawn to ask about a total on one of the items. Mr. Delawalla stated that it is hard to give an estimate on what a total amount would be when the position is a sub. He stated that he would look into it and report back.

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve Consent Agenda item numbers 1 and 4 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Siever read the Proclamation in Recognition of Classified Employee Appreciation Week. Manny Aguirre accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the classified staff.

### **10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**

#### **10.1 Anti-Bullying Task Force Update**

Ms. Laura, Hank Linderman, Parent Co-Chair of the Anti-Bullying Task Force, and Tom Horn, Anti-Bullying Task Force member, gave an update on the 2010-2011 activities. The focus of the task force has been the Caring Schools Community curriculum and establishing relations parent and the community. Mr. Horn thanked the Board for their support to the task force. Board members thanked the presenters for the update.

#### **10.2 Spotlight on Education – El Rincon Elementary**

Ms. Ellen Craig, Principal at El Rincon, presented the Board with information on student achievement and the Olweus Program. She spoke about how the growth in test scores is measured; and the decrease in bullying on campus.

### **11. Public Recognition**

#### **11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Jaffe reported that a grant focusing on English learners has been submitted which is for long-term English learners. She attended the Education Foundation's Tribute to the Stars and said it was a huge success. Mrs. Jaffe thanked the Education Foundation for their hard work for the District. She said that both honorees, Karen Burkenheim and Lupe Navarro were amazing and gave exceptional speeches. Mrs. Jaffe also thanked Sony and The Rotary Club for all of their support. She then let Drew Sotelo use the rest of her time to provide an update on the enrollment numbers. Mrs. Jaffe then addressed concerns about the kindergarten classes and mentioned that El Rincon is looking at becoming a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) school.

#### **11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Mr. Delawalla reported that the Governor's May Revise will take place on May 16, 2011. He also provided an update on the walk-thru regarding the solar project.

#### **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 Grad Night taking place at Disneyland this year; Varsity game with the seniors taking place in Santa Monica; the Summerfest theme this year is "A Day at the Beach"; ASB elections are completed and Lukas O'Connor will be ASB President and attending the Board Meetings next year. Miss MacIntosh stated that she thinks Culver Park students should be able to attend Grad Night. She also reported that the AP students are taking the AP exams, and stated that another downfall of large classes is not being able to get in to the classes you might want.

##### **Culver Park Student Representative**

Sandra Maldonado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including the Todd Siegel Scholarship. Miss Maldonado inquired as to why the students at Culver Park cannot attend Grad Night? She stated that they were told because there was no chaperone, and felt it was not fair. Students should have been informed sooner. The students work just as hard as students at the high school, if not harder. Mr. Dylan Farris, Assistant Principal at the high school, stated that there is no reason why they cannot go

and he suggested that the students rally their administration. Mr. Farris stated that the trip is based on their attendance. Mr. Zeidman asked Mrs. Jaffe to look into it. Mrs. Jaffe stated that she would ask Mrs. Turner, Principal at Culver Park, to speak with the high school's administration. Ms. Siever thinks that the Culver Park students should be involved since they have worked so hard. Mr. Gourley agreed that he would like to see Culver Park students also attending Grad Night. Ms. Siever thinks the policy should be looked at. Ms. Paspalis understands Grad Night is incentive driven and maybe Mrs. Turner can make a similar policy or incentive as the high school.

### **Middle School Student Representative**

Rick Barclay, Assistant Principal at the middle school, provided the report for the student representative. Mr. Barclay reported that the middle school was in the process of CST testing. He also announced the CCMS Drama Department would be putting on a play on May 28<sup>th</sup> at school called Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Coat, and he has been very busy getting the drama department up and running.

### **11.4 Members of the Audience**

Board members agreed to cut the speaker's time to two minutes.

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Madeline Ehrlic extended an invitation to the audience and Board members to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> Celebration for Immersion Symposium.
- Leslie Adler, Executive Director of the Education Foundation, thanked everyone for attending the Tribute to the Stars. She provided an update on the event and stated that the award show and all of the events were great.
- David Mielke congratulated the student representatives for speaking up for themselves. As a former teacher at Culver Park he understands the issue of Grad Night. He announced that Friday morning before school the teachers and staff are going to hold hands in solidarity against the state budget cuts for the Week of Action event. Mr. Mielke provided a brief bargaining update. He stated that CCFT first offered five furlough days and in April they offered six days. He added that the union is going to make another complaint regarding regressive bargaining against the District. The union will not entertain regressive bargaining. Mr. Gourley state that he hopes everyone will take Mr. Mielke's comments with a grain of salt, and that there has been a lot of misinformation put out by the union.
- Todd Johnson stated that the Environmental Sustainability Committee had a great meeting this week and provided the Board with an update of the meeting. He stated that he had some concerns regarding the RFP submitted by the District. Ms. Siever stated that she appreciated that the RFP was submitted and asked for his thoughts. Mr. Johnson stated that the committee did not have a chance to review the RFP before it went out.
- Ellie Dawson, parent at Linwood Howe, stated that Linwood Howe was a great community school with the most loving kindergarten teachers. She stated the kindergarten team has over 13 years of experience and if the school loses a teacher it loses the experience. Mrs. Dawson informed the Board that one of their greatest responsibilities was to make sure that no school is left behind.
- Joey Taylor, kindergarten teacher at Linwood Howe, extended in invitation to the Linwood Howe Booster Club's Silent Auction event at Royal T on June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Linda Rosenberg, parent at Linwood Howe, stated that the school has fully embraced the District's theory of collaborative teaching and commended the kindergarten team for their wonderful work. She spoke in favor of keeping a teacher at Linwood Howe and stated that the best solution is to staff to current levels. Mrs. Rosenberg questioned the enrollment issues and how students are assigned throughout the District. She feels it is a question of health for the entire school.
- Gayle Haberman stated she has a 1<sup>st</sup> grader at Linwood Howe and she wanted to address enrollment. She spoke about collaboration and asked the Board to make the enrollment numbers transparent.
- Stella August, parent at Linwood Howe, stated that she started at a different elementary school and then came to Linwood Howe. She commented that her family had checked out all of the elementary school and felt the joy just walking into the classrooms at Linwood Howe. The school promotes community and family.

- Ann-Marie Fine stated that her family made a conscious decision to attend Linwood Howe. The elementary teachers are excellent and they excel at their collaborative efforts. She stated education goes beyond test scores. It goes to the heart.
- Penny Hill stated that she was shocked at the panic American parents have about what schools their children go to. She spoke about her journey in moving here and trying to find a school. Ms. Hill expressed how happy she was with her decision for her child to attend Linwood Howe.
- Jim MacGaffey stated that he wishes there was a way to get more parents to attend the Board meetings. His concern is “perception.” He does not want the “focus” at each school where it starts making the schools compete.
- Michelle Sanchez stated that Linwood Howe focuses on social and emotional development of their students. The three kindergarten teachers are excellent and incredibly cohesive.
- Martine Goldsmith stated that their family moved here eight years ago and moved their kids from private school to Linwood Howe. They have thrived there and are very happy.
- Michelle Vogel stated that she wanted to let the Board know that these parents from Linwood Howe in attendance are not going away. She feels that it has been a long time since our generation of parents has had to fight for anything. They believe in Linwood Howe and they will keep fighting for their school.
- Meghan Sahli-Wells stated that Linwood Howe had a major loss last year with the cut of a kindergarten teacher. The school cannot lose another kindergarten teacher. We have to prepare our schools for lesser permits. Just as El Marino has six guaranteed classes, Linwood Howe needs three guaranteed classes.
- Paul Walsleben stated that most of the audience from Linwood Howe are parent, but do not understand how El Marino has six guaranteed classes and El Rincon and Linwood Howe get cut. We do not understand the justification. How many times do we need to come and “bark?”
- Vivian Chinelli, kindergarten teacher at Linwood Howe, stated that she might be one of the teachers cut. She would like to see a more collaborative effort and asked the District to try to work together to solve this crisis. She does not want to see the school lose anymore children.
- Carter Vanderbilt is a graduating student that will be going to college in New York on a full scholarship attended Linwood Howe for elementary. He spoke of his memories there and stated that he still helps out at the school. He urged the Board not to take away another kindergarten teacher.

### **11.5 Members of the Board**

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Gourley stated that he has received a lot of emails on a something he did not know was decided. He said that he checked all of the people who e-mailed him to see if they were registered voters and only about half were registered. He urged people to register if they want to make a difference.
- Ms. Siever said at the last meeting that she had no idea that there was an issue regarding the kindergarten classes and her position is that we should have the topic on the next meeting to vote on. Ms. Siever reported on her attendance at the Tribute to the Stars and thought it was wonderful. She stated that she has concerns on the solar RFP.
- Ms. Paspalis stated that the Tribute to the Stars was fabulous. She thanked Sony for their donation and the venue. In regards to Linwood Howe losing a kindergarten teacher, she stated there is nothing to reconsider because no decision has been made.
- Mr. Silbiger reiterated Ms. Ehrlic’s comments and said that he is facilitating a panel at the Immersion Symposium. He also attended the Tribute to the Stars and said it was spectacular. He stated that the anti-bullying work being done in the District has been very good. The main issue is having staff roaming the campuses. Mr. Silbiger thanked Mr. Sotelo for bringing the enrollment information and asked if there was a sense of when the more accurate numbers will be available. He agreed with Ms. Siever that the sooner it can be brought forward by the staff as an information item the better. He stated that Linwood Howe has the least amount of students going to El Marino. The best thing to do is to keep coming to meetings when the topic is agendized.
- Mr. Zeidman explained how the Brown Act works and apologized to the audience for not being able to speak with them when they commented. He reported that the California Department of Education

just settled with the ACLU, so now the District cannot ask for money for P.E. clothes. Mr. Zeidman commented on his meeting with Senator Curren Price, along with Drew Sotelo and Ms. Paspalis to get additional information on a senate bill. He thanked Kari Frethams’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class for all of their letters.

**13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

**12. Information Items**

**12.1 First Reading of Administrative Regulation 3100, Business and Non-Instructional Operation – Budget; Formation of the Community Budget Advisory Committee**

Mr. Zeidman suggested sending changes to Mrs. Jaffe and bringing the Administrative Regulation back for another review and possible approval.

**14. Action Items**

**14.1 Superintendent’s Items - None**

**14.2 Education Services Items**

**14.2a Approval is Recommended for New Course at Culver City High School – Advanced Astronomy**

Dan Carter, the teacher that would be teaching the class, gave the Board insight as to what would be taught in the class. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the New Course at Culver City High School – Advanced Astronomy as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2b Approval is Recommended for New Course at Culver City High School – Japanese I Immersion**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the New Course at Culver City High School – Japanese Immersion as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3 Business Items**

**14.3a Approval is Recommended for Resolution #34/2010-2011 Temporary Borrowing Between Funds**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve Resolution #34/2010-2011 Temporary Borrowing Between Funds as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**15. Board Business**

**15.1 Discussion Regarding Board Goals and Objectives**

Ms. Siever stated she would like to bring the Goals and Objectives back at the next meeting as an Action Item. The Board agreed.

**15.2 Discussion Regarding Traffic Issues on Elenda Street**

Mrs. Jaffe gave a report on her meeting with Ted Yant, Security Supervisor. She stated that there will be a plan phased in and parking tickets will start getting issued by CCPD.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Gourley, seconded by Ms. Paspalis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Zeidman adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

On: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary