

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

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>May 11, 2010</u>
Place:	<u>District Administration Office</u>	Time:	<u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>
	<u>4034 Irving Place</u>		<u>6:01 p.m. – Closed Session</u>
	<u>Culver City 90232</u>		<u>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 Siever, Member

Staff Members Present

Myrna Rivera Coté, Ed.D., Superintendent
Ali Delawalla
Gwenis Laura, Ed.S.
Patricia Jaffe, M.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 7:15 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Dr. Tony Spano 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 the Board voted to release one temporary certificated employee and four long-term certificated substitute employees from employment effective at the end of the 2009/2010 school year. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Paspalis and passed with a vote of 5 – Ayes and 0 - Nays.

8. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman to adopt the agenda of May 11, 2010 with the amendment to change item 12.1 on the agenda to follow item 10.2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Silbiger. 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 item. Mr. Zeidman requested that item 9.5 be withdrawn. Mr. Silbiger requested that items 9.1 and 9.8 be withdrawn. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.2 – 9.4, 9.6, 9.7, and 9.9 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.2 Purchase Orders and Warrants
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 19
- 9.6 CCHS Teacher Rachel Snyder to participate in the Advanced Placement Readings in Fort Collins, Colorado, June 11-19, 2010
- 9.7 CCHS Teacher Nancy Goldberg to Participate in the Advanced Placement Readings in Louisville, Kentucky, June 9-18, 2010
- 9.9 Compensation Report of the Members of the Board of Education

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Special Meeting – April 22, 2010; and Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 27, 2010

Mr. Silbiger requested that this item be withdrawn to make a revision to the Minutes of April 27, 2010 on item 11.5. He asked that it state in item 11.5 that he requested to agendaize moving the location of the Board meetings to commence on May 25, 2010. Mr. Silbiger also wanted to clarify on item 14.4a that he also stated his concerns about the English and Drama positions. It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve the Minutes of Special Meeting - April 22, 2010 as presented; and the Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 27, 2010 as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.5 Approval is Recommended for Classified Personnel Reports No. 19

Mr. Zeidman asked for clarification on item 9.5 IA from Dr. Coté. He wanted confirmed that there was not an agreement on the actual contract. She confirmed that an agreement had not made yet on the actual contract. Therefore, Mr. Zeidman suggested that item 9.5 Ia be pulled. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Silbiger to approve the Classified Personnel Reports No. 19, with the exception of item IA, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved. Item IA will be brought back in two weeks.

9.8 Approval is Recommended for CCHS Teacher Daniel Carter and the High School Debate Teams Participation in the State Speech and Debate Championships, Bakersfield, California, April 15-18, 2010

Mr. Silbiger requested that this item be pulled so that he could comment on the fact that the date of the trip had already passed. He requested there be an effort made to get trip approvals to the Board in a timely fashion. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve the CCHS Teacher Daniel Carter and the High School Debate Teams Participation in the State Speech and Debate Championships, Bakersfield, California, April 15-18, 2010 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**10.1 Recognition of AVPA Music Students**

Ms. Laura introduced Dr. Tony Spano, Co-Director of the AVPA and music director, and gave commendations to Lisa Michel, director for the vocal group, who was unable to attend. Ms. Laura introduced each student and read their accomplishments. Dr. Spano spoke briefly and acknowledged all of those that contributed to the success of the students. Board members provided their congratulations.

12. Information Items**12.1 Safe Routes to School Presentation**

Mr. Gabe Garcia, Traffic Engineering Manager at the City of Culver City, presented information on the Safe Routes to School Program. The program would be a joint effort between the District and the City to provide safe walking and biking routes to school for our students. Ms. Siever requested a hard copy of the presentation. Mr. Zeidman asked if the City had applied previously and if so what happened. Mr. Garcia responded that the City did apply during Cycle 8, but could not locate the appropriate person at the District to sign-off, and there was not enough time to have a stakeholders meeting. Mr. Zeidman gave direction to move forward with the MOU. Ms. Paspalis inquired if a public meeting had been set. Mr. Garcia stated there was not. Mr. Silbiger inquired as to the schools that were being looked at to participate in the program. Mr. Garcia responded that the Elenda Corridor has the most traffic issues. Mr. Zeidman confirmed the area was where his son was hit by a car. Mr. Silbiger thinks that the District should go forward but was concerned about how much staff time it would require. Ms. Siever inquired about costs to the District. Mr. Garcia explained the "soft costs" that may be involved such as a teacher assigned to the curriculum aspect of the program. Mr. Garcia responded to additional questions. All Board members were in support of moving forward.

Mr. Gourley agreed to allow Ms. Siever to pull item 9.1 for her corrections. Ms. Siever requested that item 12.1 on page 97 be withdrawn so that she could clarify that if the permits are reduced and funding is reduced, then the Board would have to look at reducing programs. She did not want her comments taken out of context. It was moved by Mr. Silbiger to add Ms. Siever's additions to the Minutes of April 27, 2010 as stated. The motion was seconded by Ms. Paspalis and unanimously approved.

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

Dr. Coté reported on activities she had been involved in since the last Board Meeting which included her meeting with Chamber of Commerce members to discuss how the Chamber could become more involved with our schools; her meeting with Mr. Sotelo at Las Virgenes Unified School District to meet with the Superintendents and staff of Las Virgenes and Santa Monica Malibu regarding LAUSD permits; and her attendance at the Tribute to the Stars. Dr. Coté thanked the Culver City Education foundation Board for their hard work on behalf of the District and she congratulated Patti Jaffe on her Shining Star Award. Dr. Coté also reported on her visit to the Middle School where she welcomed Congresswoman Diane Watson who was visiting to observe the Foods

Services Program in our District. Dr. Coté thanked Food Services Director, Julie Garcia, and her staff for doing an amazing job of food preparation and presentation.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Ms. Laura invited Board members to attend the 2nd Anti-Bullying Parent Forum to take place on May 20th and provided information on the facilitators for the forum.

Mrs. Jaffe thanked the Education Foundation for a great Tribute to the Stars event. Mr. Zeidman stated what a spectacular teacher Mrs. Jaffe was when he was her student, and what a great Assistant Superintendent she has been.

11.3 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Amanda Copeland handed to the Board a copy of a letter she e-mailed and spoke about the litigation and challenges she has faced with the District regarding her daughter who is a special education student.

Since there were several speaker cards filled out to speak on behalf of Sheila Silver, Mr. Zeidman asked Mrs. Jaffe to explain the certificated layoff procedures and report the past actions that had been taken. It was further explained that Ms. Silver was not laid off, but was in fact “bumped” by another employee.

- Adam Caicedo stated that his teacher, Sheila Silver, was the reason that he joined AVPA, and he shared his experience in the program. He thanked Ms. Silver for the opportunity to be in the program.
- Marni Parsons thanked the Board for the hard work they have done trying to deal with the District's budget issues; and she gave commendations to Sheila Silver.
- Sibyl Courey spoke highly of the AVPA and praised Ms. Silver for her great work with the students.
- Elizabeth Doran, the Managing Director of The Actors Gang, commented on how the group wants to bring money to education. She spoke about how Ms. Silver has been a great liaison between the District and The Actors Gang.
- Lexa Vanech thanked Ms. Silver for making the AVPA even better, and asked if the Board could find a way to bring her back.
- Nicole Julian commented that Ms. Silver was an excellent addition to the AVPA.
- Emma Copeland commented how Ms. Silver had made English a joy for her and she loved her class.
- A student spoke on behalf of Tracy Cho who relayed her comments on Ms. Silvers talents and her interaction with the student.
- Lloyd Pilchen commented that all those present speaking in regards to Ms. Silver were hoping to impress that there would be consequences in the loss of Ms. Silver. He stated that she has the honor and respect of the students; the enrollment in the program has gone up since she arrived; and spoke about her creation of an after school class. He said that Ms. Silver was a gift to the school.
- Pam Feder spoke about how one teacher could make a difference. She spoke about the impression that Ms. Silver has left on her son and how much he has grown in the past year.
- Nicholas spoke about how Ms. Silver inspires and encourages her students.
- Duncan Ballantine spoke about how Ms. Silver has encouraged him to explore different art forms and asked the Board to reconsider their decision.
- Olivia Finnegan shared her fond memories of the AVPA performances that she had participated in, and her experience in working with Ms. Silver.
- Tanya Fleischer who is a pianist and has taught piano for twenty years asked the Board to take into consideration her suggestion of keeping what is working. She stated that the District needs a strong music program and that the music program at the middle school is not working. She stated that there needs to be a strong middle school program to feed into the music program at the high school.
- Amira Bennett spoke about her music experience with the District, and how previously there had been no string orchestra at the high school.

Mr. Zeidman explained to the audience that due the Brown Act the Board cannot respond to their comments since the matter was not agendized. Mr. Gourley thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

11.3 Members of the Audience – cont.

- David Mielke commented that he thought Duncan Ballantine did a great job in his comments. Mr. Mielke provided a bargaining update and thanked the Board for getting back to negotiations. He outlined items that were still outstanding that did not cost the District any money such as evaluations and elementary prep time.
- Alan Elmont encouraged the Union to take a leadership role in the evaluation process. He spoke about a recent security incident involving a student from out of the district and asked that Board comment while the meeting was being taped to clarify any misinformation. Mr. Elmont also stated that since the District has to face budget cuts, we also need to look at ways to bring in money.
- Jerry Chabola commented that the high school was awarded the CIF Designation; and he provided updates on the athletic teams. He provided information on the Booster Club’s upcoming events and announced the June 11th Athlete of the Year Awards.

11.4 Student Representatives' Reports

Middle School Student Representative

Evan Wilson, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, was not present.

Culver Park Student Representative

Jessica Romo, Culver Park High School Student Representative, was not present.

Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member

Noya Kansky, Student Board Member, was not present.

11.5 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Silbiger spoke about his experiences in the music program as he progressed through the district during his school years. He stated that he felt he and his colleagues on the Board worked well together and how he felt after cutting twenty-five percent of the music teachers. He stated he would be in support of bringing Ms. Silver’s position back after the Union mediation.
- Ms. Siever gave commendation to Jerry Chabola. She stated that West L.A. College was working with The Actors Gang and there is to be a gala in June. Ms. Siever discussed grant writing and stated that she would like to discuss hosting a grant writing workshop at West L.A. College. She additionally commented the need to discuss an oversight committee for the Measure EE funds; a calendar for athletic events that run concurrent with Youth and Government; a request for a Thank You letter to Larry Eisenberg. Ms. Siever also would like the Board to set their goals and objectives. Mr. Silbiger seconded her request to discuss an oversight committee for Measure EE.
- Ms. Paspalis reported on her attendance at the middle school for the luncheon with Congresswoman Diane Watson and stated how she felt it was time to go straight to the federal government for funding. Ms. Paspalis also reported on her attendance at the Tribute to the Stars, which she thought was great; and her attendance at a multicultural class that was very interesting.
- Mr. Gourley explained the incident that took place involving students that were not from our District, and said that staff, CCUSD security, and CCPD all took appropriate actions. He stated that there was no proof that there were any gang associations, and no one was seriously injured.
- Ms. Siever asked to acknowledge a student in attendance at the meeting, Adia Benton, who is also taking classes at West L.A. College.
- Mr. Gourley inquired if the restroom issue was ever resolved at Linwood Howe for after school activities. Dr. Coté informed Mr. Gourley that it was not formally taken care of, but before Mr. Scott left his

position with the City, it was discussed that the City should notify leasees they would need a separate permit from CCUSD regarding the facilities.

12. Information Items

12.2 Revision to Culver City High School's Graduation Requirements

Pam Magee, Principal at Culver City High School, provided the Board with the proposed revisions to the graduation requirements and responded to questions from the Board.

12.3 Student Permit Update

Drew Sotelo provided a demographic profile of students that are attending schools in the District on permit, and responded to questions from the Board. Mr. Zeidman requested to have the policy brought back to change the GPA requirements so that the policy is not open to an individual's discretion.

14. Action Items

14.1 Superintendent's Items

14.1a Approval is Recommended for the Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meeting and Schedule of Proposed Meeting Dates

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meeting and Schedule of Proposed Meeting Dates as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.1b Approval is Recommended for a New Contract for the Position of Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

See comments below. Item is pulled.

14.1c Approval is Recommended for a Renewed Contract for the Position of Assistant Superintendent of Education Services

See comments below. Item is pulled.

Mr. Zeidman announced that items 14.1b and 14.1c needed to be pulled since they coincided with the two items in the personnel report. The language in the contracts still needed to be agreed upon. Mr. Mielke stated that teachers have a problem not with the people in the position but with the positions themselves. The teachers were hoping to see a reclassification of these positions to Directors. Another concern Mr. Mielke stated was the \$250.00 being given as an mileage allowance, and the language on potential salary reduction.

14.2 Education Services Items – None

14.3 Business Items

14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Rejection of Claim

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

14.3b Approval is Recommended for Resolution #41/2009-2010 – Temporary Borrowing Between Funds

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve Resolution #41/2009-2010 – Temporary Borrowing Between Funds as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.4 Personnel Items

The Board decided to postpone taking action on items 14.4a and 14.4b as noted below.

14.4a Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 4127/4227/4327, Temporary Athletic Team Coaches

14.4b Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 1240, Volunteer Assistance

14.4c Approval is Recommended for Resolution #40-2009/2010 (HR), Regarding Layoff of Classified Personnel

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Silbiger to approve Resolution #40-2009/2010 (HR), Regarding Layoff of Classified Personnel as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

15. Board Business - None

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Zeidman, seconded by Ms. Siever and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Gourley adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary