

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

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>July 8, 2008</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

Dana Russell, D.D.S., President
Jessica Beagles-Roos, Ph.D., Vice President
Saundra Davis, M.A., Clerk
Steven Gourley, Member
Scott Zeidman, Esq., Member

Staff Members Present

Myrna Rivera Coté, Ed.D., Superintendent
David El Fattal, M.B.A.
Sara Fields
Patricia Jaffe, M.S.

Call to Order

Board President Dr. Russell 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. Mr. Victor Gallardo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Closed Session

Dr. Russell 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. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis to approve the agenda of July 8, 2008 as presented. Dr. Beagles-Roos moved to amend the agenda so that item 9.4 includes the addendum. Mr. Zeidman moved the adoption of the agenda as amended. Mrs. Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. Consent Agenda

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 Gourley requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn.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

- 9.2 Purchase Orders and Warrants
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No.1 and Addendum
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 1
- 9.6 Office of Child Development 2008/2009 Contracts
- 9.7 Office of Child Development 2008/2009 Resolution

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – June 24, 2008 and Special Board Meeting – June 26, 2008

Mr. Gourley pulled this item for a correction to item 16.2 of the June 24, 2008 minutes so that it reads, “Mr. Gourley spoke about Mike Cohen’s ad.” It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting – June 24, 2008 as amended; and Special Board Meeting – June 26, 2008 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations - None

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

Dr. Coté reported on receiving preliminary notification from Barbara Boxer's office that the FLAP (Foreign Language Acquisition Program) Grant, written by Tracy Pumilia and members of the El Marino staff, has been granted. The grant is designed to provide a strong K-12 Japanese Immersion Program in the District. Dr. Coté also reported on the issues that are being handled at the District Office during the summer months such as reviewing the Board's priorities and filling vacancies; she then gave a brief bio and introduction for Ms. Gwenis Laura who will now be serving in her new position as Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. Ms. Laura thanked the Board for approving her new position and gave a brief speech on how she is looking forward to working in her new position of Assistant Superintendent.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Mrs. Fields thanked the Board and Dr. Coté for allowing her to serve as Interim Assistant Superintendent and stated that she will still be available for training Ms. Laura; she addressed the bullying issue by informing the Board of steps that are being taken at the elementary and secondary levels.

Mr. El Fattal reported that he will be attending a meeting of the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority to get an update on construction.

Mrs. Jaffe reported on vacancies that are being filled and she is very proud that many candidates are former students of the District

11.3 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Karlo Silbiger commented on the passing of Adele Siegel who was an activist, teacher, and 60 year resident of Culver City; he suggested adjourning the meeting in her memory. Mr. Silbiger also commented on the Board Agenda not having any attachments on-line, and he felt that the Board Reports from staff were not complete. Further discussion ensued as to what could be applied on the website, and the differences between the City agenda and the District's agenda.
- David Mielke commented on the wonderful opportunity that the members of the community have to be able to come and talk to the Board; he requested a more recent salary schedule and suggested that it should be on the website; he echoed comments made regarding Adele Siegel and what a great person she was; he congratulated Ms. Gwenis Laura on her new position in the District; he stated that the Union would like to start addressing more educational issues; and he informed the Board that up until a couple of years ago CCFT negotiated the coaching stipends, but the District decided that the coaching stipend would not be raised automatically.

11.4 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Dr. Beagles-Roos agreed that the meeting should be adjourned in memory of Adele Siegel; she extended congratulations to Tracy Pumilia for receiving the FLAP Grant; gave information on the Education Foundation's upcoming fundraiser at Chipotle; gave information on Olympians that swam at the Natatorium; she complimented Culver City High School on their Read to Rock event; she addressed comments that were made at the last meeting where community members think that there's a direct lineation between smaller schools equaling smaller class size and asked staff to address this issue. Dr. Coté explained that smaller class sizes are negotiated by the teachers' union, and school size and staffing is determined by enrollment of the number of students in the school, therefore, there is no direct correlation.
- Mr. Gourley commented that the question is how does the Board make it a correlation and how do we fix an ideal size of the schools; at what point does it make sense to add people to the District. Mr. Gourley is in agreement to adjourn the meeting in memory of Adele Siegel, and stated his interest in hearing Mr. John Kuechle discuss PXP Oil's report.

- Mrs. Davis was in agreement to adjourn in memory of Adele Siegel and shared a story about Mrs. Siegel; in regards to the bullying issues, she inquired as to what immediate actions does the District have in place; she thought the Special Board Meeting regarding the permits in the District was well attended; she would like to know the pros and cons of having K-6 schools instead of K-5; she inquired as to if the Special Education scores were included in the scores that were presented by Mr. Sotelo at the Special Board Meeting; she expressed her curiosity in regards to the suggested parcel tax, if it was worth the District pursuing a tax, and that she heard that the City might also be pursuing a parcel tax; she congratulated the District on the FLAP Grant and is excited that it will allow us to follow through with the curriculum; she requested to get information on a diabetes curriculum for the District.
- Mr. Zeidman extended congratulations and welcomed Ms. Gwenis Laura in her position in the District; he agreed with Mrs. Davis for a call for action on bullying; he thanked Mr. Sotelo and Mrs. Ecker for their great presentation at the Special Board Meeting; the City being interested in getting a new paramedic unit and the possibility of the District having to work with the City on this matter; he stated his concern for the coaches, their stipends, how they are represented and requested to agendize the issue. A consensus was made to agendize with the agreement of Mr. Gourley and Mrs. Davis.
- Dr. Russell congratulated Ms. Gwenis Laura on her new position in the District, thanked Mrs. Fields for acting as interim and expressed what a great job Mrs. Fields did as Principal at El Marino; he commented that he was pleased that the District is now in a phase of hiring a few teachers; he was pleased at how the Special Board Meeting went and that there were a lot of positive comments; in regards to the bullying issue, he is interested in seeing the survey that will be coming out regarding healthy children and misinformation that gets put out in the community; he was in agreement to adjourn in memory of Adele Siegel.

12. Information Items

12.1 Enrollment Report

Mr. El Fattal presented the two month Enrollment Report to the Board.

Mr. Gourley suggested moving item 15.2 up on the agenda since the speakers were in attendance. Mr. Kuechle advised that they were still waiting on one of the speakers.

12.2 Board Statement of the District's Support and Adherence to a Policy of Nondiscrimination

Dr. Russell read the Board Statement for public record.

12.3 Adult School Information: Accreditation; Security; Summer School; Reach Estate Course

Dr. Coté introduced Mr. Victor Gallardo, Principal of the Adult School, who gave a presentation to respond to inquiries from the Board. Mr. Gallardo informed the Board that he started the process for accreditation in December and explained to the Board what the process entailed. He also confirmed that the Adult School has never been accredited. He confirmed that there would be a WASC review and that there were three core people at the Adult School that would be coordinating assembling the information for application. Mrs. Davis requested that Mr. Gallardo research to find out if the Adult School was ever accredited.

In regards to security matters at the Adult School, Mr. Gallardo reported that hours of security coverage, that there is only one officer during the summer and that there were no serious incidents to report. Mrs. Davis wanted to ensure that the officers were at their posts during their scheduled times, that the officers were not bringing their children to work with them, and that the cash register was being used instead of a drawer. Mr. Gallardo responded that officers were at their posts and covering inside and outside, he explained the issue with the officer bringing their child to work, and confirmed that using the cash register has been implemented. Dr. Russell inquired as to who supervises the security officers, if the Adult School accepts credit cards and if they have ever been robbed. Mr. Gallardo confirmed that both he and the Security Supervisor supervise the officers, they do have a credit card machine, and they have never been robbed.

In regards to Summer School, Mr. Gallardo reported that the Summer School has expanded, but that enrollment was lower than expected. Karlo Silbiger expressed that he does not think that the Adult School has the resources

to address working with Middle School students, and that they would need extra support services in place. Mr. Zeidman felt that having two different locations could be a reason for the lower enrollment, and suggested having a lower price and staggering start times if there are two locations. Mr. Gallardo, in response to Mr. Silbiger's comments, confirmed that most of the teachers during the summer session are from the District and not from outside companies.

Mr. Ambrose Stephens addressed the Board in regards to the Real Estate classes that were being taught at the Adult School and confirmed that they were approved by the State.

12.4 First Reading of Revised Board Bylaw and Administrative Regulation 5117 – Students, Inter-District Attendance

Dr. Coté introduced the Board Bylaw and Administrative Regulation to the Board. Mr. George Laase commented on establishing a minimum number of permits that will be allowed, and stated that as the policy is written it sounds as if the Board is micromanaging. Board members gave their suggestions on any revisions. Dr. Beagles-Roos inquired as to the geographic areas that were stated in the policy which lead to further discussion on parcels in Blair Hills that belong to LAUSD. Mr. Gourley, Mrs. Davis, and Mr. Zeidman agreed by consensus to have staff follow through on geographical areas for CCUSD and LAUSD. The Board would like the boundary lines in the City to be contiguous. The Board Bylaw and Administrative Regulation will be brought back with revisions for further review.

12.5 First Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation 5117.1 – Students, Inter-District Attendance Agreements

The Board requested to combine this Administrative Regulation with Administrative Regulation 5117.

Dr. Russell requested to move 15.2 up on the agenda. The Board agreed. Mr. Zeidman requested to allow more than three minutes for the presentation regarding PXP Oil. The Board agreed.

15.2 PXP Oil's Impact on Culver City Unified School District

Mr. Kuechle gave a presentation on the environmental report in regards to proposed drilling by PXP Oil. Further discussion ensued as to the possible impact on the District and if PXP Oil did any research on the impact to the schools that are in the possibly effected zones. Mr. Gourley requested Mr. Kuechle to provide the information of other businesses that have the same view as the District. Mrs. Davis inquired if the District should request a moratorium. Mr. Kuechle responded that there was a moratorium that concluded in June. Mr. Zeidman proposed sending a letter with the District's concerns about air quality. All Board members were in agreement to write a letter. A consensus was made to have the letter written by Mr. Zeidman.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 9:11 p.m and reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

14. Action Items

Superintendent's Items

14.1 Approval is Recommended for the Renewed Contract for the Position of Superintendent

Mr. Gourley inquired as to if the public received a copy of Dr. Coté's contract. Dr. Coté responded that it has been available prior to this meeting, and is always public record. Mr. Laase inquired as to what the difference was between a two and three year "buffer". Mr. El Fattal responded that by law it would be eighteen months for severance. It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Renewed Contract for the Position of Superintendent as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Education Services Items**14.2 Approval is Recommended for Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #16-08**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #16-08 until February 2009 and that the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Approval is Recommended for New Course at Culver City High School: AVID College Readiness

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the new AVID College Readiness course for Culver City High School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.4 Approval is Recommended for Textbook Adoption for Culver City High School, Science**Department: Explorations-An Introduction to Astronomy**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve Culver City High School's request for the new Science textbook: *Explorations – An Introduction to Astronomy*, Fourth Edition 2006, by Thomas T. Army as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.5 Approval is Recommended for the Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints

Mr. Gourley inquired as to if the District has a copy of the newer settlement. Mrs. Fields responded that that the Board can be provided a copy of the most recent settlement from the Attorney General. It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Valenzuela/CAHSEE lawsuit settlement and Williams Settlement Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary for the periods of April 1 through June 30, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.

Business Items**14.6 Approval is Recommended for Budget Revisions to the General Fund**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Beagles-Roos that the Board approve the budget revision to the General Fund as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Personnel Items**14.7 Approval is Recommended for the Emergency Permit, Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators Form**

It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the Emergency Permit Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators be approved as presented to be effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Mrs. Jaffe provided further explanation on this item. The motion was unanimously approved.

15. Board Business**15.1 American Citizenship Awards, 2008-2009**

Dr. Coté explained that this item was put on the agenda so the Board could decide to continue the program through the following year. The cost of the pins is \$200.00. Mr. Zeidman inquired as to how the students are chosen. Dr. Beagles-Roos suggested possibly giving the pins out every other month instead of once a month. Dr. Russell suggested continuing with the program and getting the information from staff as to how the students are chosen. Mrs. Davis suggested if there are no criteria that the Board makes the criteria. Mrs. Fields suggested waiting until Ms. Laura meet with the Principals and ask what criteria they have been using, and then share that information with the Board. A consensus was made to continue the program, the criteria that is used to choose the students should be presented to the Board, and possibly having a couple of sentences about each student read when they are presented with the pins.

16. Public Recognition – Continued**16.1 Members of the Audience**

No audience members had comments.

16.2 Members of the Board

Board members spoke about:

- Mrs. Davis inquired as to Special Education students being on permits. It was her understanding that the District does not admit Special Education permits. Dr. Coté responded that either the students come in on SELPA, or they enter and the District does not know that they are a Special Education student. Mrs. Davis also wanted to make sure that she received the information on how many permit Special Education students do we have in the District that would affect the District scores that were shown by Mr. Sotelo at the Special Board Meeting. Dr. Coté responded. Mrs. Davis expressed that everyone should be interested in the scores and the students best interest; and she does not want the process of reviewing the permits to turn into a negative process of residents against permit students. Mrs. Davis also asked Dr. Coté if she could discuss with her the pros and cons of having a K-6 system.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos welcomed Ms. Laura who will be joining the Board at the next meeting, and she thanked Mrs. Fields for serving as Interim Assistant Superintendent.
- Dr. Russell inquired as to what the status was with Mr. Bakunin who went on a sabbatical. Mrs. Jaffe responded that he is back, but has not come to the District Office.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Zeidman, seconded by Mrs. Davis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Dr. Russell adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m. in memory of Adele Siegel.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary