

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>December 9, 2008</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**

**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.**  
**Gwenis Laura, Ed.S.**  
**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 7:09 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Mr. Manny Aguirre 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.

Dr. Russell suggested moving item number 10.1 up on the agenda. All Board members were in agreement.

**10.1 American Citizenship Awards**

Dr. Coté and the Assistant Superintendents read the names and accomplishments of each school's recipients of the American Citizenship Award for the month of December. The recipients were Matthew Shellin from El Marino School; Myroslava Ojeda from El Rincon Elementary; David Ibarra from La Ballona School; Rhina Padilla from Linwood E. Howe School; Jezebel McCarthy from Farragut School; Kiana Van Vlack from Culver City Middle School; Sarah Branham from Culver Park High School; and Cathy Arias from Culver City High School. Dr. Russell presented each recipient with a pin and certificate; and thanked the students and their families for attending the meeting.

**7. Board Business**

Dr. Russell called upon Dr. Coté to proceed with the organizational portion of the meeting. Dr. Coté opened nominations for Board President. Mrs. Davis nominated Dr. Beagles-Roos. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Zeidman. Dr. Beagles-Roos was named Board President with a vote of 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays. Dr. Coté turned the meeting over to Dr. Beagles-Roos to continue with nominations.

Dr. Beagles-Roos called for nominations for Vice President. Mr. Zeidman nominated Mrs. Davis. The nomination was seconded by Dr. Russell. Mrs. Davis was named Board Vice President with a vote of 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Dr. Beagles-Roos called for nominations for Clerk. Mrs. Davis nominated Mr. Gourley. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Zeidman. Mr. Gourley was named Board Clerk with a vote of 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Mr. Zeidman nominated Dr. Russell to be the voting representative to the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association and the representative to elect members to the County Committee on School District Organization. The nomination was seconded by Mrs. Davis. The nomination was passed with a vote of 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Dr. Beagles-Roos appointed Mr. Zeidman as Parliamentarian. Dr. Beagles-Roos also suggested leaving the representatives for the Board of Education/City Council Liaison Committee the same at least until after the

upcoming meeting. Mr. Zeidman stated that he would like to be on the committee. Further discussion ensued. It was decided that the representatives to the Board of Education/City Council Liaison Committee would be Mr. Zeidman and Mr. Gourley, with Dr. Beagles-Roos as the alternate. The representative to the Youth Health Center Committee is Mr. Gourley. The representative to the District Community Arts Committee is Dr. Beagles-Roos. It was decided there would be one representative to this committee. The representative to the Career Advisory Committee is Mrs. Davis. The liaison to the Culver City Education Foundation is Dr. Beagles-Roos.

Dr. Coté swore in the president, vice president, and clerk.

#### **8. Adoption of Agenda**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley to adopt the agenda of December 9, 2008 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **9. Consent Agenda**

Dr. Beagles-Roos called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any item. Mr. Mielke requested that item 9.4 be withdrawn. Mr. Karlo Silbiger requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn. Dr. Russell requested that item 9.10 be withdrawn.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.2, 9.3, and 9.5 – 9.9 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.2 Purchase Orders and Warrants

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 8

9.6 Office of Child Development 2008/2009 Contract for Instructional Materials Program

9.7 Office of Child Development 2008/2009 Resolution for the Instructional Materials Program

9.8 CCMS GATE Students and Three Teachers to Attend Astro Camp, May 1-3, 2009, Idyllwild, CA

9.9 Overnight Out-of-State Field Trip – Sojourn to the Past to Southern States, February 12-21, 2009

#### **9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – November 18, 2008 and Special Board Meeting – December 2, 2008**

Mr. Silbiger requested that this item be withdrawn so that three items could be corrected. The first item was on page 40 where it states the program he mentioned as “Save and Civil Schools”. The correct name is “Safe and Civil Schools.” On page 41 under 15.2 he requested to add that Gary Silbiger the Vice Mayor was in attendance speaking about the possibility of having a Student Advisory Committee. Mr. Silbiger also requested to add the decision of the Board regarding the survey which was to add a link to the District’s website that went directly to the survey. He also requested a correction in the discussion regarding the survey from the City. Dr. Beagles-Roos requested a change to the minutes under 16.2 regarding the Culver City Youth Health Center’s Annual Fundraiser to state “meeting” instead of “Fundraiser. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting – November 18, 2008 as amended and Special Board Meeting – December 2, 2008 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 8**

Mr. Mielke requested that this item be pulled to comment on item 1e. He expressed his concern with hiring someone from out of the District to be District Coordinator for the Anti-Bullying Task Force. This position should not call for the expenditure of an outside consultant. Dr. Beagles-Roos requested staff to respond. Dr. Coté responded that the task force is not just made up of principals. It consists of students, teachers, and community members. Dr. Russell stated that he understands Mr. Mielke’s concerns, but feels that Mrs. Fields is a member of the community and the District. Mrs. Davis asked if the Mrs. Fields was working on the project before she retired. Dr. Coté stated the Task Force is new. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Zeidman stated that the complaints regarding bullying are down since the Task Force was established. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 8 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**9.10 Approval is Recommended for the Resolution to Authorize K-3 Class Size Reduction Application for 2008-2009**

Dr. Russell requested that this item be withdrawn because he had questions regarding K-3 class size reduction. Mr. El Fattal explained that there are no cost savings to eliminate K-3 class size reduction. Further discussion ensued. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Resolution to Authorize K-3 Class Size Reduction Application for 2008-2009 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations****10.2 Spotlight on Education - Culver City High School**

Dr. Coté introduced Ms. Kim Indelicato, Assistant Principal at Culver City High School. Ms. Indelicato along with three students gave a presentation on the Link Crew Program taking place at the High School. The program is to help freshman transition to high school. Mr. Jerry Chabola commended Ms. Indelicato and Ms. Peacock for doing such a tremendous job with the students. Mr. Zeidman asked if the program was voluntary for freshman, and if there was any way to track the attrition. Ms. Indelicato responded that it is voluntary and that they hope to be able to track the attrition but this is the first year. Dr. Russell commented that it is a great program and inquired as to how many seniors are participating. Ms. Indelicato stated that there is about 110 seniors participating. Mrs. Davis commented that she was thrilled to see the program at our school and she thinks the program is so successful because of Ms. Indelicato's enthusiasm. A student inquired if the seniors would get community service hours. Ms. Indelicato said yes. Dr. Beagles-Roos extended her congratulations on the program and expressed how important the program is.

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

Dr. Coté reported on the press conference that State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell held at the High School regarding data that was compiled statewide in the Healthy Kids Survey and School Climate Survey. Dr. Coté named who was in attendance at the press conference, and stated that she spoke about the importance of the surveys and how the information is used in the District. She received an e-mail thanking the District for hosting the conference, and was asked to write a statement about the value of the School Climate Survey that will be posted on the California School Climate Survey website. She also informed the Board on how our District was chosen to hold the press conference.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Ms. Laura reported on an opportunity for students in grades five through eight which is the Bose in Harmony with Education Program arranged by our District Art Consultant, Inez Bush. She reported that the program instructors are real musicians and scientists who share their knowledge with our students. There are approximately two thousand students who will be participating. Ms. Laura also gave an update on the third meeting of the Anti-Bullying Task Force Committee and its participants.

Mr. El Fattal stated that he will have information on the State Budget when he presents the First Interim Report.

**11.3 Members of the Audience**

Audience members spoke about:

- Mr. Mielke congratulated Dr. Beagles-Roos on her presidency, and congratulated his student Cathy Arias for receiving the American Citizenship Award and being apart of the Link Crew. He also pointed out that that teachers involved with the Link Crew are adding that program on to their regular assignments, and the climate seems to be that if there is a project established for District Office then outside consultants are hired. Mr. Mielke commented on the financial crisis that the State and District are going through. His suggestions from the Union are to keep the budget cuts as far away from the classroom as possible. He suggested cutting Board member health benefits, the PR Consultant, the website maintenance, one of the Assistant Superintendents, and the Director of Special Projects. He also suggested revoking the salary increases for those that received an increase during the reclassification.

- Eliana Pikes and Kennedy Green, seventh grade students, handed out a newspaper article to Board members from the Ballona Creek Renaissance. They co-founded the Eco Club at the Middle School to bring awareness to students about the environment. They submitted to the Board information on Styrofoam and gave them a petition of signatures to banish Styrofoam from the school. Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked them for coming and suggested that they work with staff to make a change District-wide and not just at their school site. Mr. Gourley thanked them for their presentation and suggested that they speak with Councilman O'Leary at the City to get additional information on water conservation. The Board asked for a report on what the District can do to assist with their request on banishing Styrofoam in the District.
- Mr. Jim Lamm from Ballona Creek Renaissance commented on new beginnings environmentally for the creek and for the community. He also commented on how impressed he was after he met with the Eco Club.
- Mr. Chabola announced that students present were dismissed at 8:30 p.m.

### **11.3 Student Representatives' Reports**

#### **Middle School Student Representative**

The Culver City Middle School Student Representative was not present.

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

Emily Gomez, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including field trips to Peterson Automotive Museum and to UCLA to display artwork from the HeART Project; an update on the food and toy drive; the holiday cards that students made for veterans; and the school's preparations for the annual International Feast.

#### **Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member**

Opal Dillard, Student Board Member, was not present.

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

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Zeidman commented on his attendance at the press conference with Jack O'Connell and he was very impressed. He viewed the Bose in Harmony program and explained a little about what the students were learning and expressed their enthusiasm. He announced that baseball coach Rick Prieto is holding a winter baseball camp and encouraged anyone interested with children who are interested in baseball to participate; and announced the Booster Club's Casino Night and provided information on the event. He also reported on his upcoming attendance at the holiday performances and tree lighting events; and he wished everyone a happy holiday.
- Mrs. Davis requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ethel Bradley. This request was seconded by Mr. Gourley. Mrs. Davis commended Ms. Laura in her continuing efforts with the Anti-Bullying Task Force Committee, and enjoys seeing the link between the Task Force and the Link Crew; and she reported on her attendance at the County Board of Supervisors inauguration for Mark Ridley-Thomas. Mrs. Davis wished everyone a happy holiday.
- Mr. Gourley commented on his work with the Mock Trial Program and how extremely talented the students were. In connection with the Link Crew Program, the Mock Trial students are learning from older students that are in the program. He thanked Ms. Dubois, the students, and the parents for their participation and encouragement. He clarified that he does like Jack O'Connell, but that O'Connell did support the Governor's veto of the bill which would have continued the exit exam exemption for Special Education which costs millions of dollars in time and energy to schools across the state.
- Dr. Russell commented that one of the first students to participate in the Mock Trial Program is now in his second year at Harvard Law School and commended Mr. Gourley for his participation in the program. Dr. Russell commented on information he received at the CSBA Conference that would assist the District with the ongoing issue of revenues from ASB; and information he received regarding website where people can anonymously report bullying. He also received information on oral health screening and was informed the District is supposed to receive funds for each kindergarten student that receives a screening.

He wanted to make sure that the District is collecting the revenues. Ms. Laura confirmed that the funds are being received, but she was not sure what funds would be received next year. Dr. Russell also stated that he learned that the State budget is only going to get worse and he thinks we will have to make additional cuts now.

- Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked Mr. Gourley for working with the Mock Trial Program. She reported that the District Community Arts Team is finishing their mission statement and working on their strategic plan, and she brought information to share with the Board. She announced information on the annual Culver City Friends of the Youth Health Center's fundraiser on February 8, 2009. Dr. Beagles-Roos commented that the Education Foundation works year round to raise money for the District; that they received a \$50,000 grant from the Fineshreiber Foundation for the Science Lab at El Rincon Elementary; and provided an update on the annual Tribute to the Stars. She commented on a flyer from the Culver City Federation of Teachers regarding Social Security laws for experienced individuals who take up teaching, and she's interested in sending a support letter to our representatives at the Federal level to reintroduce HR22 and add 206 since our state also needs more highly qualified teachers. A consensus was made by Mr. Zeidman, Dr. Russell and Mr. Gourley to send the letter. She stated that the Anti-Bullying Task Force is working on recommendations and as a Board they will have to work on revising and updating Board Policies. She also commented on her attendance at the CSBA conference and mentioned the selection process for the student Board members may possibly change to the process used by the State Board of Education.

## **12. Information Items**

### **12.1 Presentation of the First Interim Report for 2008-2009**

Mr. El Fattal presented the Board with key topics from the First Interim Report and responded to questions from the Board. Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked Mr. El Fattal for his presentation and asked Board members if they would like to vote on item number 14.3a at this time. The Board agreed.

### **14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Certification of the First Interim Report for 2008-2009**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley to approve the 2008-2009 First Interim Report as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **12.2 First Reading of Revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation, 1250 – Community Relations, Visitors/Outsiders**

Mr. Andrew Sotelo presented the Board Policy and Administrative Regulation to the Board and recommended revisions. Mr. Zeidman suggested removing the word "visitors" and replacing it with "outsiders" throughout the documents to reflect Penal Code. Board members suggested additional revisions. The information will be brought back for a second reading.

### **12.3 Second Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation 4112.4, Health Examinations**

Mrs. Jaffe presented the revisions to the Board. Mr. Zeidman commented that the Administrative Regulation looked great. The information will be brought back for adoption at the next Board meeting.

## **13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 9:23 p.m. and reconvened at 9:35 p.m.

## **14. Action Items**

### **14.1 Superintendent's Items**

#### **14.1a Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy and New Administrative Regulation 0450, Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans – Comprehensive Safety Plan**

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis to adopt the Revised Board Policy and New Administrative Regulation 0450, Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans – Comprehensive Safety Plan as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.1b Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meetings and Schedule of Proposed Meeting Dates**

Dr. Coté presented the calendar information to the Board. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve the Waiver of Bylaws of the Board 9320, Meetings, for the purpose of canceling the regularly scheduled meetings of December 23, 2008; April 14, 2009; August 11, 2009; August 25, 2009; and December 22, 2009 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.1c Approval is Recommended for Revisions to the Superintendent's Contract**

Mr. Zeidman stated what the changes to the contract amounted to per month for travel. Dr. Beagles-Roos confirmed that Dr. Coté did not receive the one percent increase when the teachers received theirs. Mr. Gourley thanked Dr. Coté for a job well done. Mrs. Davis stated that she would like to agendaize discussing a salary schedule for the Superintendent. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the revisions to the Superintendent's contract as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2 Education Services Items****14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #03-08**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #03-08 until June 2009 and that the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. Mr. Zeidman requested to amend the motion to 20 community service hours. Mr. Gourley accepted the modification and it was seconded by Mrs. Davis. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2b Approval is Recommended for the Reinstatement of Pupil Services Case #15-05**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve reinstatement of Case #15-05 as presented. Mr. Gourley stated he would support the motion if it was reviewed by Independent Study. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2c Approval is Recommended for the Supplemental Educational Services Master Contract (pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act) and to Delegate Authority to the Superintendent to Enter into Contracts with Supplemental Educational Services Providers**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the Supplemental Educational Services Master Contract. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2d Approval is Recommended for the Adult School 2009 Winter Trimester for Adults**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley to approve the Adult School 2009 Winter Trimester for Adults as presented. Mrs. Davis inquired as to why the Board was presented with this item late. Ms. Laura responded that she has spoken to the Principal about this ongoing issue and reassured the Board that it will not happen again. Mr. Gourley requested that Ms. Laura's response be reflected in the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2e Approval is Recommended for new Classes at Culver City Independent Study School: Intercultural Literature II, Astronomy, and Physiology**

Dr. Beagles-Roos commented that she is pleased that The Independent Study School is getting the same classes as the high school. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the new classes at the Independent Study School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2f Approval is Recommended for Symphonic Jazz Orchestra Contract for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Music Program, 2008-2009**

Karlo Silbiger commented about the lack of music education in the classrooms. He commented on his concerns and asked how many hours the classes would be; what are the consultant's qualifications; and what are the standards? Mr. Silbiger did not feel that the position should be contracted out for a part-time employee. Mr. Zeidman, Mr. Gourley, and Mrs. Davis all agreed that they would like to know the responses to Mr. Silbiger's questions. Mrs. Davis also inquired as to why the Board was approving this item after it started. Ms. Laura responded that there were issues, including a change in curriculum that could not be avoided. Mrs. Davis

requested to have these items prior to their start. Dr. Russell inquired as to if the consultants were considered outsiders and if the District can get sued. Mrs. Davis inquired if consultants are fingerprinted and provide TB clearance. Mrs. Jaffe will check on the policy. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra Contract for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Music Program, 2008-2009 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3 Business Items**

**14.3b Approval is Recommended for the Certification of Signatures for Warrants, Orders for Salary Payment, Notices of Employment and Related Documents**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Certification of Signatures for Warrants, Orders for Salary Payment, Notices of Employment and Related Documents as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4 Personnel Items - None**

**15. Public Recognition – Continued**

**15.1 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Mr. George Laase commented that he came across information regarding PXP Oil and had a discussion with some customers who received royalty checks from the company. He requested that the Board look into the issue of the District receiving royalty checks.

**15.2 Members of the Board**

Board members spoke about:

- Dr. Russell wished everyone happy holidays.
- Mr. Zeidman commented that he went to OCD the morning that payments were due and inquired as to why credit cards were not accepted. Mr. El Fattal responded that the two and one half percent cost is an issue with that particular program, but he will look into it further.
- Mrs. Davis requested to agendize a discussion regarding establishing a Superintendent’s salary schedule. A consensus was made with Mr. Zeidman and Mr. Gourley in agreement. Mrs. Davis commented about speaking with student Ryan Cho about the AP exam fees. Both she and Dr. Russell had questions regarding the fees and what the Board can do for students that cannot afford the tests. Dr. Coté stated that she would follow up on this matter.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos stated that she was pleased the students are in better physical shape; and she requested to have a Special Board Meeting possibly on January 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Board’s visions for the District. She wished everyone a happy holiday.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Dr. Russell, seconded by Mrs. Davis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Dr. Beagles-Roos adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m. in memory of Ethel Bradley.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary