

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

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>January 27, 2009</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

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

Dr. Beagles-Roos pulled item 14.2b and requested to move item 10.2 up on the agenda to precede the Consent Items. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Gourley to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations

10.1 Spotlight on Education – Farragut Elementary School

Dr. Coté introduced Mrs. Barbara Brown, Principal of Farragut Elementary School. Mrs. Brown spoke about the music program at Farragut, and introduced teacher Mrs. Patty Eskridge who led the Farragut Advanced Bell Ringers in their performance. Board members thanked the students, Mrs. Eskridge, and Mrs. Brown for attending the meeting.

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. Jerry Chabola requested that item 9.5 be withdrawn. Mr. George Laase requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1, 9.3, and 9.4 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – January 13, 2009

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 10

9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders and Warrants

Mr. Laase requested that Mr. El Fattal explain the Health and Benefits portion of the Board members expenditures. Dr. Beagles-Roos explained that this portion of the agenda is for comments only, and is not a question and answer period.

9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 10

Mr. Chabola asked that this item be pulled to comment on the retirement of Mr. Richard Longenbaugh. Mr.

Chabola requested that the Board do some sort of acknowledgment for Mr. Longenbaugh's work with the District such as a commendation. Mr. Gourley and Dr. Beagles-Roos agreed that Mr. Chabola's suggestion was a great idea.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve item number 9.2 and 9.5 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

11. Public Recognition

11.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Coté reported that she had attended a Rotary Club meeting on Wednesday where she accepted a check given to the District for new electronic clock for the track. Dr. Coté also reported on her visits to the school sites during professional development and the great work that was being done; her receipt of information from the City of Culver City regarding the Youth Advisory Committee; and the re-designation of Culver City Middle School as a School to Watch. Dr. Coté introduced Dr. Tom Tracy as the new principal at El Rincon Elementary School. Dr. Tracy gave a brief speech and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work in the District. Dr. Coté read a brief bio on Dr. Tracy.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents

Ms. Laura welcomed Dr. Tracy to the District, and reported on the success of Staff Development Day.

Mr. El Fattal reported on the budget and the possible allocation of funds to education from the Federal stimulus package. Mr. El Fattal gave a brief bio and introduced Mr. Ted Yant as the new Security Supervisor. Mr. Yant thanked the Board for the opportunity to work in the District.

Mrs. Jaffe commented on the great job that was done at all the schools during staff development. She reported that the elementary secretaries and aides received CPR training; and gave additional information regarding the re-designation of Culver City Middle School as a School to Watch.

11.3 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Becky Stephen commented on the budget cuts and requested that the Board keep the cuts as far away from the classroom as possible. She then informed the Board of what the Instructional Aides do, and how their role plays out in the schools. Ms. Stephen suggested a work furlough and asked if the idea has been discussed.
- David Mielke welcomed Dr. Tracy, congratulated the Middle School on their re-designation as a School to Watch, and commented that the Bell Choir did a great job on their performance. Mr. Mielke commented that he keeps hearing about whether the teachers can be relieved from some of the testing that is taking place. He stated that in this financial crisis the District needs to look at outside organizations to cut such as Galileo; and he stated that he has heard comments regarding the Superintendent's mileage allowance. He requested that the District allow the teachers to use part of the Staff Development Day to complete their grades at the semester.
- Jerry Chabola commented that political advocacy is very important, and requested that the Board lobby more on behalf of the City and the District. He stated it is time to take a more proactive approach.

11.4 Student Representatives' Reports

Middle School Student Representative

Sibyl Courey, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver City Middle School, including the tickets going on sale for the upcoming Valentine's Day Dance on February 12th; an update on the start of the second semester; the success of the Winter Dance; and the newly approved Mission Statement for Student Council.

Culver Park Student Representative

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

Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member

Connor Nannini was present for Student Board Member Opal Dillard who was unable to attend. Mr. Nannini reported on the High School ASB having a Madden Madness event, and the upcoming blood drive.

11.5 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Gourley requested for staff to identify a person with whom a representative from the Culver Crest Neighborhood Association can discuss concerns about the use of El Rincon Elementary for their meetings. He spoke about an L.A. Times article regarding cyber bullying. Mr. Gourley commented that he was happy to hear that he and Mr. Mielke were in agreement on many points at this meeting. Mr. Gourley also provided an update on his meeting with Assemblymember Karen Bass.
- Dr. Russell welcomed Dr. Tracy and Mr. Yant to the District, and complimented Mr. Pearson for continuing the tradition at the Middle School with being re-designated as a School to Watch. He also requested information on what tests are being given that are not necessary.
- Mr. Zeidman welcomed Dr. Tracy and Mr. Yant. He stated he attended a basketball game at the High School and the scoreboard did not work. Mr. Zeidman reported on upcoming fundraising events for the Friends of the Library, Booster Club's Casino Night, and the Booster Club's upcoming Bowling Tournament. Mr. Zeidman reported on his attendance at El Rincon on Pupil Free Day..
- Mrs. Davis welcomed Dr. Tracy and Mr. Yant to the District, and welcomed Mr. Nannini to the Board Meeting. She congratulated Miss Courey on the approval of her Mission Statement for Student Council; and gave commendations to Mr. Pearson and all the staff at Culver City Middle School for the redesignation as a School to Watch. Mrs. Davis inquired as to if the District has addressed the suggestion of a work furlough; and stated that she does not mind Mr. Chabola coming to the meetings and reminding the Board that they need to advocate for the community.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos welcomed Dr. Tracy and Mr. Yant to the District, and thanked all current employees for attending the meeting. She also thanked the Rotary Club for their clock donation. In regards to advocacy, Dr. Beagles-Roos informed the Board about a CSBA Action Alert in support of HR1 The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

12. Information Items**12.1 2007-2008 Independent Audit Report**

Mr. El Fattal introduced Ms. Christy White from Nigro Nigro & White, PC who presented a summary of the 2007-2008 Independent Audit Report and responded to question from Board members. Board members thanked Ms. White and Mr. El Fattal for doing a great job. Dr. Russell requested information on allowing credit cards to be accepted on the website. Mr. Zeidman reiterated Dr. Russell's request. Dr. Beagles-Roos complimented the High School's ASB on having no findings in the report.

12.2 Enrollment Report

Mr. El Fattal presented the Enrollment Report to the Board. Mr. Mielke inquired as to if the District is still in declining enrollment, or if the numbers have reached a plateau. Mr. El Fattal responded that he recently received formal demographic information from the state stating that the numbers may be going up on enrollment. Dr. Russell questioned if the District's enrollment was up because of permits. Dr. Coté responded yes and that demographics were not the only factor in enrollment.

12.3 Advanced Placement Presentation

Ms. Laura introduced Mrs. Pam Magee, Principal at Culver City High School, and Mr. Michael Marcos, Assistant Principal at Culver City High School. Mrs. Magee and Mr. Marcos gave a Power Point presentation Advanced Placement classes at the high school, and addressed the College Board requirements and policies related to the program. Students Miranda Baxendale, Ryan Cho, and Rachel Lewis all made statements against mandatory AP exams and the fees that are required to take the exams. Mr. Marcos and Mrs. Magee responded to questions from audience and Board members. Further discussion ensued regarding honors classes and the policy on AP exams. Board members thanked staff and the students for coming to the meeting.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 9:25 p.m. and reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

14. Action Items

Mrs. Davis requested moving item 14.2h up on the agenda. Board members agreed.

14.1 Superintendent's Items - None**14.2 Education Services Item****14.2h Approval is Recommended for the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Culver City Middle School**

Ms. Laura informed the Board that the Mr. Pearson, Principal of Culver City Middle School, was present to answer any questions. Board members commented on how great the plan was. Mr. Pearson explained how the school is getting out of Program Improvement status. Further discussion ensued as to how the vision portion was written. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Culver City Middle School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy 5137, Positive School Climate

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy 5137, Positive School Climate as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2c Approval is Recommended for Resolution #8/2008-2009: Mandated Cost Claim Settlement: Special Education Behavioral Intervention Plan (Hughes Bill) for Culver City Unified School District

Dr. Russell asked when the District would receive the money. Mr. El Fattal responded that an exact time is unknown. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve Resolution #8 Mandated Cost Claim Settlement: Special Education Behavioral Intervention Plan (Hughes Bill) for Culver City Unified School District as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2d Approval is Recommended for Resolution #9/2008-2009: Mandated Cost Claim Settlement: Special Education Behavioral Intervention Plan (Hughes Bill) for Tri-City SELPA

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve Resolution #9/2008-2009: mandated Cost Claim Settlement: Special Education Behavioral Intervention Plan (Hughes Bill) for Tri-City SELPA as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2e Approval is Recommended for Resolution #10/2008-2009: Arts and Music Block Grant

Dr. Beagles-Roos questioned why the District was doing this Resolution at this time. Ms. Laura responded that it's a yearly requirement. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve Resolution #10/2008-2009 Arts and Music Block Grant as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2f Approval is Recommended for the 2008-2009 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Programs Part II

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Programs Part II as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2g Approval is Recommended for the Proposed Adult Education Program at Culver City Adult School – 2009 Spring/Summer Trimester for Adults

Dr. Beagles-Roos expressed her concern about approving the program with the phrase "Classes will be similar..." as stated on the report. Mr. Victor Gallardo, Principal of the Adult School, was present and explained that there only two new programs. The other programs are remaining the same. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and

seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Adult Education Program – 2009 Spring/Summer Trimester for Adults as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2i Approval is Recommended for the Reinstatement of Pupil Services Case #16-08

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the reinstatement of Case #16-08 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Business Items

14.3a Approval is Recommended for Budget Revision to the General Fund

Michael Laase and Carol Mora had a question regarding the certificated and classified salaries. Mr. El Fattal confirmed that the term “benefits” means the tax that the District pays. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve the budget revisions to the General Fund as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

15. Board Business - None

16. Public Recognition – Continued

16.1 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Student, Lauren Park, commented against students having to take mandatory AP exams.
- Mr. Alan Elmont commented that he finally received a response to his ongoing question regarding room capacity at the schools.
- Mrs. Janet Chabola suggested taking some consideration on where Action Items are placed on the agenda.

16.2 Members of the Board

Members of the Board spoke about:

- Mrs. Davis requested that her trip to Sacramento be placed on the Special Board Meeting agenda. Mr. Gourley and Mr. Zeidman were in agreement. Mrs. Davis also announced that she will be running for a State Senate seat.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos stated in regards to the proposed Board Policy that was pulled, the word “visitor” is more welcoming than the word “outsider.” She also commented that she received information from the Los Angeles County Board of Planning regarding the Baldwin Hills oil drilling. They are organizing a Community Advisory Panel which will have two seats for local school district Board members.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Zeidman, seconded by Mr. Gourley and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Dr. Beagles-Roos adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary