

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>March 10, 2009</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>Linwood Howe Elementary</u> <u>4100 Irving Place</u> <u>Culver City 90232</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u> <u>6:01 p.m. – Closed Session</u> <u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>

**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 7:05 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Ms. Patty Krause led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

Dr. Beagles-Roos reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session regarding issues listed on today's Closed Session agenda and announced that the following actions were taken.

In Closed Session, the Board voted to give a Notice of Possible Release and Reassignment to a certificated administrator effective as of the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The vote was 5 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; 0 – Absent and 0 – Abstained.

In Closed Session, the Board voted to give a Notice of Possible Release and Reassignment to a certificated administrator effective as of the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The vote was 5 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; 0 – Absent and 0 – Abstained.

In Closed Session, the Board voted to non-reelect a probationary certificated employee, effective as of the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The vote was 5 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; 0 – Absent and 0 – Abstained.

**8. Adoption of Agenda**

Dr. Beagles-Roos requested that the agenda be revised to have Action Items 14.3a and 14.4a follow Information Item 12.2, and then continue with the remaining portions of the agenda in order. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell to adopt the agenda of March 10, 2009 as revised. 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. No items were withdrawn by the Board or audience members.

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.6 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – February 24, 2009
- 9.2 Purchase Orders
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts - Donations
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 13
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 13

9.6 Student Teacher Agreement between the Culver City Unified School District and Western Governors University

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**

**10.1 Spotlight on Education - El Rincon Elementary School**

Dr. Tom Tracy, Principal at El Rincon Elementary School, introduced fifth grade students Dione Taylor and Tyler Macinotsh who showed the differences between plant and animal cells. Dr. Tracy gave a presentation on the new Science Discovery Lab by showing pictures of Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students discovering science. Board members thanked the presenters and Dr. Tracy for their presentations.

**11. Public Recognition**

Dr. Beagles-Roos announced that the Board has agreed to reduce the time for speakers to two minutes since there were a number of speakers.

**11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Coté reported on an article in the Los Angeles Times regarding the Linwood Howe science students, and an article in Los Angeles Magazine about exceptional schools in Culver City. Dr. Coté thanked staff at all of the schools who took time to come and speak with her when she made site visits regarding the budget, and she recognized everyone that had sent her e-mails over the past two days. In response to the budget crisis, Dr. Coté announced that an "Empower our Schools" campaign was being established through the Education Foundation to help replace cut SI funds for the District. She further announced that to start the campaign she was donating one percent of her salary, and stated that she had asked management to join her in doing the same. Mrs. Pam Magee, Principal of Culver City High School, spoke on behalf of MACCS employees and reported on topics of discussion at the recent MACCS meeting. Mrs. Magee announced that MACCS members were in agreement to donate one percent of their salaries toward the campaign, and she encouraged members of the other unions and the community to join in the campaign. Ms. Patty Krause from the Culver City Education Foundation provided additional information about the campaign and advised audience members how they could donate.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Mrs. Jaffe provided an update on the school calendar, and announced that the calendar for the 2010-2011 school year should be done by the end of this year. Mrs. Jaffe reported that she will be hand delivering layoff letters over the next few days.

**11.3 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Culver City High School students Berheley Ocegüera, Emily Hirohama, Emily Kosciuk, and Elham Mesghali spoke about upcoming AVPA events and extended invitations to Board members.
- Pam Fader and Liz Kinnon spoke about the wonderful job that AVPA is doing, and extended an invitation to Board members to attend the upcoming performance of "Singing in the Rain."

Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked the student representatives for attending and staying so late at the February 24, 2009 Board meeting.

**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 Middle School's Open House the previous week; and an update on how well the fifth grade orientation events went.

**Culver Park Student Representative**

Jessica Romo, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including the United Nations Team trip to Berkeley; and the school's HeArt Project Artwork being displayed at the Getty Museum.

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

Opal Dillard, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including the upcoming Blood Drive on March 18<sup>th</sup>; the record number of applications that were received for ASB Officers; an update on the Relay for Life fundraiser; the ASB candy sales; her participation in AVPA's production of "Singing in the Rain;" the College and Career Placement Center at the High School and how informative it is for the students; the record number of students that applied for the Culver City Community Scholarships for Seniors; and the mock SAT testing.

**11.5 Members of the Board**

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Zeidman commented that he had received over two hundred e-mails, and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos congratulated Teacher of the Year Nan Borcharding, Classified Employee of the Year Asuncion Romo, and Edward and Marla Wolkowitz who will be honored with the Education Foundation's President's Award; and she announced that they will all be honored at the Tribute to the Stars event. Dr. Beagles-Roos complimented all of the elementary schools for their outstanding Information Nights, and she thanked everyone for the e-mails that were sent.

**12. Information Items****12.1 Enrollment Report**

Mr. El Fattal presented the report to Board members, which was carried over from the February 24, 2009 meeting.

Mr. El Fattal responded to questions from audience members.

**12.2 Presentation of Proposed 2009-2010 Expenditure Reductions – (See Attached)**

Mr. El Fattal presented the Expenditure Reduction form to the Board. Mr. Zeidman inquired as to why the Director of Special Projects was no longer on the list? Dr. Coté responded that the position is paid out of categorical funds that are not being cut. Mr. Zeidman inquired as to why the Maintenance Forman was added. Dr. Coté stated that it was a managerial position. Mr. Zeidman also asked if the Assistant Principal positions were new to the list. Dr. Coté confirmed. Dr. Beagles-Roos asked about items removed such as Mock Trial, AVPA, and Athletic Transportation. Mr. El Fattal responded that after recent Board meetings it was appropriate to remove the items.

Members of the audience made the following comments regarding this item:

- Lisa Cooper, Guidance Counselor, spoke on behalf of the counselors and stated her concerns about going to a 600 to 1 ratio.
- Pam Magee, Principal at the high school, stated that she fully supported Ms. Cooper; and she spoke in support of keeping the Assistant Principal position at the high school. Mrs. Magee also provided a brief description of duties of the Assistant Principal position.
- Barbara Brown, Principal of Farragut Elementary School, commented on how she was made aware of an e-mail asking for management to take a pay cut, and how taking a pay cut has nothing to do with leadership. Mrs. Brown stated that MACCS members are calling on all unions to donate to the "Empower Our Schools" campaign, and she relayed the point that all employees of the District are important.
- David Mielke apologized for any feelings he may have hurt with the bulletins he published as the CCFT union representative. He commented on how the teachers took a one percent raise last year which was less than the median. He encouraged the Board not to be too hasty on their reduction decisions.
- Barbara Perello gave a brief summary on her history as an employee in the District. Ms. Perello stated that there are three different unions that have been at war over the past couple of weeks, and encouraged the unions to come together in the decision making process. She also encouraged the Board to learn more about the positions before cutting them.
- Crystal Alexander expressed she was heartened by the presentation on the El Rincon Science Lab. Ms. Alexander commented on the AP science and math classes, and asked the Board not to cut these classes.
- Erin Gelfat had questions regarding the AP classes, and what would happen if there were low enrollment.

- Dan O'Brien commended management for their offer of donation to the "Empower Our Schools" Campaign. Mr. O'Brien stated his frustration on the negotiable items not having been negotiated yet. Mrs. Jaffe responded that negotiations were taking place for the 2008-2009 school year, and that those negotiations have to be completed before moving forward on the 2009-2010 school year.
- Roger Maxwell stated that he was sorry that all of this mess had to take place. He thanked Dr. Tracy and the students for their presentation. Mr. Maxwell also mentioned that on March 17<sup>th</sup> the PTA representatives will be going to Sacramento; he felt that the APs are necessary and asked the Board not to cut them; and stated he hopes that there are no layoffs for any single parents.
- Mike Marcos stated that there's no union of advocacy in MACCS. He stated that with the call of sharing in the pain, there are no bigger loss than the cuts last year to the guidance office. Mr. Marcos also informed the Board how cutting counselors and the Assistant Principal would affect the students.
- Karlo Silbiger handed out a list of his recommendation for cuts to Board members and summarized the list for them.
- Pam Fader stated that she was upset about the counselors possibly being reduced, and shared a conversation she had with her son about his experience with the counselors. Ms. Fader also spoke against increasing class size.
- George Laase spoke on the Board members' health and welfare benefits.
- Debbie Jones spoke against raising class sizes, and state that the Board historically has voted not to increase class sizes. She urged the Board to make increasing class size a last resort.
- Jeannine Stehlin urged the Board not to increase class size or reduce the AP classes; and urged administration to lead by example in taking a pay cut.
- Jamie Wallace agreed with Ms. Stehlin's statements. Ms. Wallace commended management on their one percent salary donation, but urged management to take a four percent cut in salary.
- Rebecca Rona Tuttle commented that the District is spending too much at the District level, and suggested that the Superintendent's budget be trimmed, along with staff. Ms. Tuttle also spoke in favor of keeping the Assistant Principal position.
- Mike King stated he was at the previous two Board meetings and the statements from the audience have been very special interest focused. He suggested having an Ideas Group that consists of stakeholders to present ideas to the Board. Mr. King again suggested having a ten dollar donation per student per week.
- Bryan Sullivan, a Culver City High School Spanish teacher, relayed student concerns about cutting AP classes. Mr. Sullivan also expressed his concerns about increasing class sizes.
- Jackie Lee stated she was glad to hear about the newspaper articles that Dr. Coté reported on. Ms. Lee stated that if positions are cut, the District will not have great customer service. She also gave suggestions regarding restructuring; and she confirmed that members of the Association of Classified Employees would be happy to donate to the "Empower Our Schools" campaign.
- Steven Gyepes stated that he knows the process of cutting the budget is hard work. Mr. Gyepes stated that he was speaking on behalf of the students as he addressed the Board on the counselors possibly being cut.
- Chris Knight spoke against making cuts in the Security Department and stated that with California in a recession, studies show that when times are tough crime increases. Mr. Knight felt it was in poor taste to cut two security officers and no administrators.
- Francis Thaler commented on how the articles in the papers and magazines regarding the high ranking of Culver City Unified Schools are related to the smaller class sizes.

#### 8. Recess

The Board recessed at 9:06 p.m. and reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

#### 14. Action Items

##### Business Items

**14.3a Approval is Recommended for the 2009-2010 Expenditure Reductions**

Dr. Beagles-Roos suggested that the Board consider voting on a group at a time as shown on the list, and then pull items independently from the group if they needed to be discussed. Mr. El Fattal suggested going through the items as if the Board had not voted on any items previously. Mrs. Davis asked for clarification on what happens with the items that the Board previously voted on. Mr. El Fattal confirmed that there is no problem with the Board voting on those items again.

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve items 1 – 17 on the reduction list as presented. Mr. Gourley inquired as to the duties of item number 5, Maintenance Foreman, because he was not sure if the position should be cut. Mr. Gourley moved to approve items 1 – 17, and pull item 5 off of the list. Mr. Zeidman seconded the motion. Miss Dillard commented against cutting the custodian position, which is item 17. Dr. Beagles-Roos clarified that if positions are cut that there will be every effort to bring the positions back. Mr. Gourley inquired as to the difference in duties between the Maintenance Foreman and the Director of MOT. Mr. El Fattal provided the information on their duties. Further discussion ensued. The Board voted 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays in favor of pulling item #5 from the list. The original motion on items 1-17, with the amendment of pulling item #5, was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve items 18 – 20 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman, for the purpose of discussion, to approve item 21 as presented. Further discussion ensued regarding the removal of this position with enrollment being up at the high school. Dr. Beagles-Roos stated that she would be willing to hold on cutting this position. The Board unanimously agreed to pull this line item from the list.

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve items 22 and 23 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Gourley, for the purpose of discussion to approve item 24 on the reduction list as presented. Discussion ensued about the reduction of counselors since there counselors cut last year. Mrs. Davis felt that the District could not afford to cut any more counselors. Dr. Russell moved to table item 24. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zeidman. The motion to table was unanimously approved.

The Board unanimously approved to also pull item 25.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman, for the purpose of discussion, and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve item 26 on the reduction list as presented. Mr. Zeidman stated that he was not comfortable cutting two officers and would prefer to cut one. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Zeidman moved to amend the motion to one officer. His motion was seconded by Mr. Gourley. The motion was unanimously approved with the amendment of one officer.

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve item 27 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman, for the purpose of discussion, and seconded by Mr. Gourley to approve item 28 as presented. Mr. Zeidman asked for information on what health and welfare benefits other districts offer their Board members. Mr. Zeidman requested tabling this item and bringing it back in two weeks pending additional information. A consensus was made to table item 28.

Dr. Beagles-Roos suggested a discussion on this item. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis to approve item 29 on the reduction list as presented. Dr. Beagles-Roos stated that she would like to table this item, or not consider it at all. Mr. Gourley thought that there should be a vote. Dr. Russell asked what the impact would be if class size was increased by two. Dr. Coté responded. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Davis agreed to table this item. A consensus was made to table this item.

It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos, for the purpose of discussion, and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve item 30 on the reduction list as presented. Mr. Zeidman stated he was against approval for this item. Dr. Beagles-Roos and Dr. Russell did not agree with this line item. The Board unanimously approved to remove this item from the list.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell to remove item 31 from the list. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. El Fattal explained the ramification of voting on item 32. Dr. Coté gave her recommendations to the Board. Further discussion ensued. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve item 32 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Gourley, for the purpose of discussion, that the Board approve item 33 on the reduction list as presented. Discussion ensued regarding class size. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion ensued as to how many items still needed to be cut to reach the target amount. Mr. Zeidman moved to shift ROP to unrestricted funds. Mr. El Fattal gave the updated amount on how much had been cut thus far.

In regards to item 34 to 46, Mr. Zeidman pulled item 35 for discussion. Mr. El Fattal gave additional clarification on the target reduction amount. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve items 34, and 36 - 41 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to approve item 35 as presented. Mr. Gourley verified that this line item was the art consultant. Dr. Russell inquired if it was possible to renegotiate the contract if the Board votes on the item. Dr. Coté responded yes. Further discussion ensued regarding the funding. Mrs. Davis suggested reducing the amount of salary, but not cutting the position. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 2 – Nays with Mr. Gourley and Mr. Zeidman voting against the reduction of line item 35.

Mr. Gourley moved to remove item 42 from the list. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis. Dr. Coté recommended voting yes on this item and bringing it back once funding allowed restructuring. It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos and seconded by Dr. Russell to approve item 42 as presented. The motion to approve the line item was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 2 – Nays by Mr. Gourley and Mrs. Davis.

Mr. Zeidman requested to move to item 46. Dr. Russell requested to postpone items 43 to 46, and move on to the next item. Further discussion ensued.

Mr. Zeidman requested to take action on items 47 – 51. It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve items 47 – 51 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board discussed the Instructional Materials Realignment Funding Program (IMRFP) line item, and addressed the question on if the funds can be used next year. Mr. El Fattal confirmed that the funds cannot be used next year. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve utilizing in the General Fund the allocated/reserved IMRFP textbook funds as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board went back to items 43, 44, and 45 and had additional discussion.

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve item 43 on the reduction list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis to table items 44 and 45 on the reduction list. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Zeidman requested to take a recess. Dr. Russell was in agreement of a recess.

**Recess**

The Board recessed at 10:36 p.m. and reconvened at 10:47 p.m.

**Personnel Items****14.4a Approval is Recommended for Resolution #22, Regarding the Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Service Now Being Performed by Certificated Employees**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board approve Resolution #22-2008/2009 (HR), Regarding the Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Service Now Being Performed by Certificated Employees as presented. Mrs. Jaffe provided additional information on the positions. Mr. Karlo Silbiger asked for clarification on the flexibility issue of the March 15<sup>th</sup> notifications. He suggested notifying everyone including management. Further discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Single Plan for Student Achievement for Culver City High School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2b Approval is Recommended for the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for El Marino Language School**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Single Plan for Student Achievement for El Marino Language School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2c Approval is Recommended for Seconded Reading and Adoption of Revised Administrative Regulation and Board Policy 5144, Students – Discipline**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis, for the purpose of discussion, and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Administrative Regulation and Board Policy 5144, Students – Discipline as presented. Mr. Zeidman stated that there was a conflict with the Wellness Policy. Mr. Andrew Sotelo provided information on the codes used in the policies. Mr. Zeidman asked if the Board needs to modify the Wellness Policy. Mrs. Laura replied yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2d Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #04-09**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #04-09 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2e Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #05-09**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #05-09 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2f Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #06-09**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #06-09 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Business Items – (cont.)**

**14.3b Approval is Recommended for Change Order Request – Bid #2008.1, Roof Replacement at Culver City Middle School 3<sup>rd</sup> Hall**

Dr. Russell inquired if this replacement was from a fire. Mr. El Fattal responded no, and that this was a different issue. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve Change Order Request – Bid #2008.1, Roof Replacement at Culver City Middle School 3<sup>rd</sup> Hall as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3c Approval is Recommended for Notice of Completion – Bid #2008.1, Roof Replacement at Culver City Middle School 3<sup>rd</sup> Hall**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve Notice of Completion – Bid #2008.1, Roof Replacement at Culver City Middle School 3<sup>rd</sup> Hall as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**15. Board Business**

**15.1 Discussion Regarding Nominees for the 2009 Delegate Assembly Election**

Board members discussed and made their decision for the 2009 nominees.

**16. Public Recognition – Continued**

**16.1 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience members spoke about:

- Alan Elmont suggested the Board have a community meeting on job duties within the District and provide an organizational chart for the whole district. He also commented that there needed to be a district motivated effort to get more volunteers in the schools.

**16.2 Members of the Board**

Board Members spoke about:

- Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked her colleagues for all of their hard work and the employees for the efforts at the school sites.

**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 11:06 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary