

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>April 27, 2009</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**

**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 7:00 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Mr. Richard Hibbs 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 no reportable actions were taken.

**8. Adoption of Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell to adopt the April 27, 2009 agenda 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. Mrs. Davis requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn.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 – 9.7 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 10, 2009; and Special Meeting – March 17, 2009
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 15
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 15
- 9.6 Proclamation in Recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3-9, 2009)
- 9.7 Proclamation in Recognition of Classified School Employee Appreciation Week (May 17-23, 2009)

**9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders and Warrants**

Mrs. Davis requested clarification on items that were crossed out, and if the items were subtracted from the total amounts. Mr. El Fattal responded and confirmed that the totals were correct. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve purchase orders from March 16, 2009 through April 17, 2009 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**

**10.1 American Citizenship Awards**

Dr. Coté and the Assistant Superintendents read the names and accomplishments of each school's recipient of the American Citizenship Award for the month of April. The recipients were Cameron DeFaria from El Marino School; Paige House from El Rincon Elementary; Laksmitta Candrisari from La Ballona School; Jack Hyslop from Linwood E. Howe School; Isabel Kasch from Farragut School; Ryan Baudoin-Bull Culver City Middle School; Guillermo Sanchez from Culver Park High School; and Crystal Woods from Culver City High School.

Board members presented each recipient with a pin and certificate; and thanked the students and their families for attending the meeting.

Mr. Gourley requested to move Action Item 14.4b up on the agenda to follow item 10.2. All Board members were in agreement.

### **10.2 Spotlight on Education - Culver Park High School**

Marianne Turner, Principal at Culver Park High School, and students presented information on the Model United Nations Team that was implemented this school year. Students also spoke about the conference they attended at the University of California, Berkeley and their upcoming field trip to attend a conference at the University of Southern California. Students also shared samples of their artwork.

Board members thanked the presenters and spoke about the benefits of having the Model United Nations program.

Before moving on to the next item, Board members clarified which item Mr. Gourley wanted to move up on the agenda. The item he would like moved forward on the agenda was item 14.3b and not 14.4b.

### **Action Items**

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

Mr. Gourley stated that he would be voting no on this item because he felt the Board made a promise to the workers and people of the community, and is not convinced that these reductions should be taking place. Mr. Zeidman agreed. Further discussion ensued on whether the Board should vote, or hear the presentation on this item. Alan Elmont requested to hear the presentation. Mr. El Fattal gave a brief presentation providing a reminder of the actions taken thus far by the Board and the items presented on the expenditure reductions that were previously tabled. Alan Elmont stated he recalled the cuts previously made were for flexibility in the budget, and inquired as to why additional cuts were being made. Roberta Sargent spoke in favor of keeping the instructional aides. Jamie Wallace spoke in favor of keeping the instructional aides and felt there was no need to make the cuts at this time. Robert Gray submitted a letter stating his position against additional cuts which was read by Mr. Zeidman. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the original motion requesting additional expenditure reductions be denied. Mrs. Davis commented that the Board talked about Federal funding possibly coming at a later date. Mrs. Davis requested to hear Dr. Coté's thoughts on possible additional funding from the Federal Government. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman to postpone any additional cuts until more information is received about possible Federal funding. Dr. Coté provided clarification on the timeline of any future funding that the District might receive from the government. Mr. Zeidman inquired about the amount of funds already cut from the budget. Further discussion ensued regarding possible outcomes if additional cuts were made. Dr. Beagles-Roos stated she felt there was one item she would like to take off the list entirely and not just postpone it which was item 29 regarding class size. Dr. Russell stated that a vote needed to be made on the first motion. The motion to postpone additional expenditure reductions was approved with a vote of 4 – Ayes and 1 – Nay made by Dr. Russell. It was moved by Dr. Beagles-Roos and seconded by Mrs. Davis to not postpone item 29, but to remove it completely from the expenditure reductions list. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **11. Public Recognition**

#### **11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Coté stated that staff was anxiously awaiting results of the May 19<sup>th</sup> special election because of the impact the results would have on the District's budget. Dr. Coté reported on District events that were held which included the PTA Council Honorary Service Awards Dinner; the Statewide Speech Tournament that was hosted by Culver City High School; and Farragut Elementary School's annual Art Works event. Dr. Coté reported how she immediately addressed the Swine Flu situation by posting a letter to all parents and employees on the District website, and the same information was posted on Culver Currents. Dr. Coté stated that she would be attending the Title I Academic Achievement awards where La Ballona and Linwood E. Howe schools would be honored.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Ms. Laura reported that STAR testing begins the following day for students grades two through eleven, and provided updates on other tests coming soon.

Mr. El Fattal reported that a possible announcement would be coming soon regarding the amount of funding Districts would receive from the Federal government.

Mrs. Jaffe reported that she has been hand delivering the layoff notices, and that the employees have been very gracious and understanding.

**11.3 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Becky Stephan commented on the California State PTA taking their official viewpoints on some of the initiatives that will be on the May 19<sup>th</sup> ballot.
- Sydney Hibbs commented on her trip to Washington D.C. with fellow students from the middle school, and she thanked Board members for allowing the students to attend.
- Alan Elmont commented on the strain that this year has put on the Board in building confidence and trust with the community. He felt that the past discussion during the meeting showed that the Board still had to work on communication. Mr. Elmont reported that CBAC has not met for three months. Therefore, the cuts that they submitted are now ancient history.

**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 her attendance at the State Speech Tournament at the high school; the Panther Partners Jog-A-Thon which will support after school programs; the upcoming Spring Fling Dance and O-Grams; eighth grade Grad Night; the eighth grade GATE Astro Camp trip; and Spirit Week.

**Culver Park Student Representative**

Jessica Romo, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including the beginning of the yearbook production and upcoming testing.

**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. Gourley thanked Board members for moving his requested item up on the agenda, and thanked the audience for remaining quiet during the discussion. Mr. Gourley commented on the traffic around the school sites during events and suggested that someone bring the topic up to City Council.
- Dr. Russell commented that when he hears people say that the community does not receive enough information, he wonders if CBAC is taking information back to the community or their school sites. He would like to hear what CBAC is doing. Dr. Russell did not think that traffic issues were a District problem to solve and he does not understand why the problem has not been resolved. Mr. Gourley stated that the Council has to put pressure on the police chief to get more squad cars out. Dr. Russell stated that the District should work with the police department by informing them of all events and making sure they are aware there will be heavier traffic during those times.
- Mr. Zeidman reported on his trip to Washington D.C. with the middle school students, and he thought it was a great program. He reported on his attendance at the PTA dinner.
- Mrs. Davis was proud to report that the Pre-School Teacher of the Year Christine Lyall was exceptional at the awards ceremony. Mrs. Davis reported that the County Committee decided not to vote on any of the propositions, and urged everyone to really look at the propositions. She thanked Dr. Russell for refreshing her memory on the purpose of creating CBAC and what their duties are.

- Dr. Beagles-Roos provided a reminder about the upcoming Tribute to the Stars; and she reported on a letter she received from LACOE regarding the District's Second Interim Report and the District received a positive certification. Dr. Beagles-Roos also reported that the City has offered to partner with the District on making funding proposals for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; and that she had her interview with the auditors, which was a new protocol.

## **12. Information Items**

### **12.1 Enrollment Report**

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

### **12.2 First Reading of Revised Board Policy 5030, Students – Wellness Policy**

Ms. Laura presented the Board Policy and announced that Mr. Andrew Sotelo was available for any questions. Mr. Zeidman suggested revisions which were agreed upon by Mr. Gourley and Mrs. Davis. The policy will be brought back for a second reading.

## **13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 8:37 p.m. and reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

## **14. Action Items**

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

#### **14.1a Approval is Recommended for the Renewed Contract for the Position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources**

Mr. Gourley requested to move this item to the next regular meeting. He questioned voting on an item of this nature when it was not the normal night for a Board meeting. Board members agreed to table the item until the next meeting.

### **Education Services Items**

#### **14.2a Approval is Recommended for Textbook Adoption for Culver City High School, English Department, Journalism 1, 2**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the new textbooks for Culver City High School, English Department, Journalism 1, 2 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **14.2b Approval is Recommended for the Carl Perkins Grant Application 2009-2010**

Dr. Russell requested a typo be corrected to change the approval date to the date of the meeting. It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Carl Perkins Grant Application 2009-2010 as corrected. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **14.2c Approval is Recommended for the Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for the period of January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – Ayes and 1 – Nay vote from Mr. Gourley.

#### **14.2d Approval is Recommended for the Language Census Report R30**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the Language Census Report (R30), Spring 2009 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #09-09 until January 2010 and the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2f Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #10-09**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #10-09 until January 2010 and the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2g Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #11-09**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #11-09 until January 2010 and the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2h Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #12-09**

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the stipulated expulsion of Case #12-09 until January 2010 and the student enroll in County Community Day School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3 Business Items**

**14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Parcel Tax Feasibility Study**

Karlo Silbiger commented that in the Board Report it stated three firms were evaluated to provide the study. He felt the information should have been provided on the other firms that were evaluated. Mr. Silbiger stated that he was worried about the proposed parcel tax because he felt there was a small tax revolt in the state and in the city. He asked what the District previously did for Proposition T, and was the same firm used. Kathy Paspalis commented that funds used on the study would be money well spent. George Laase spoke in favor of using the proposed firm, and asked what the District was going to do with the money that was available to use for the natatorium. He suggested that installing artificial turf at Helms Field was another project the money could be spent on instead of the natatorium. Janet Chabola confirmed that the District did use a professional service for Measure T and then the community members pushed the campaign. Mr. Gourley agreed with Mr. Laase that it is a buyer's market, and he's hoping there is not a total tax revolt. Mr. Gourley would like to see if some of Mr. Silbiger's questions could be answered. Dr. Russell had questions about the practicality of the study. Further discussion ensued regarding how the process would work. Dr. Beagles-Roos commented that since the Board previously decided not to vote on anything of magnitude during a meeting that was not on the regular schedule, she suggested postponing the vote. Mr. Gourley felt that the Board was already behind on starting the process and the vote should be taken at this meeting. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve the Parcel Tax Feasibility Study as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3c Approval is Recommended for Resolution #30/2008-2009 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) for 2009-2010**

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve Resolution #30/2008-2009 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) for 2009-2010 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve the budget revision to the General Fund as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4 Personnel Items**

**14.4a Approval and Adoption of Indefinite Action for Management, Confidential and Other Unrepresentative Employees for 2009-2010**

It was moved by Dr. Russell and seconded by Mrs. Davis that the Board approve and adopt the Indefinite Action for Management, Confidential, and other unrepresented employees for 2009-2010, effective on the date of the Board action as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4b Approval is Recommended to Approve Resolution #31/2008-2009 (HR) Implementing Certificated Layoff (Terminating Services of Certificated Employees) and Providing Direction to Issue Notifications to Employees Whose Services Are Terminated**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis to approve Resolution #31/2008-2009 (HR) Implementing Certificated Layoff (Terminating Services of Certificated Employees) and Providing Direction to Issue Notifications to Employees Whose Services Are Terminated as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4c Approval is Recommended for Resolution #32/2008-2009 (HR), Regarding Layoff of Classified Personnel**

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board approve Resolution #32/2008-2009 (HR), Regarding Layoff of Classified Personnel 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:

- George Laase inquired about the information that the company will assist the District with regarding the parcel tax. Mr. Zeidman responded and Mr. El Fattal concurred.
- Janet Chabola stated she felt it was unfair for Board members to say that CBAC was not doing their job, and that they work very hard.
- Vice Mayor Gary Silbiger announced that the possibility of having a Youth Advisory Committee will be discussed at the May 4<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. He extended an invitation Board members and staff to attend.

**16.2 Members of the Board**

Members of the Board spoke about:

- Mrs. Davis stated her concerns about CBAC getting information out to the public.
- Mr. Zeidman acknowledged Barbara Brown’s retirement from her position as principal at Farragut Elementary school and stated that he would like to be on any hiring committee. He suggested agendizing a discussion regarding CBAC, or possibly having two Board members form a sub-committee with Mr. El Fattal to discuss the concerns and possible reorganization so as not to use too much Board meeting time on the topic. Mr. Zeidman also announced a reading at the Julian Dixon library on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Russell stated his main concern in regards to CBAC was that its members are getting information out to the public.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked staff for all of their hard work she stated Robert Frost was full for the previous evening’s awards; and she felt that the Farragut Art Works event gets better every year.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Gourley, seconded by Mr. Zeidman and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Dr. Beagles-Roos adjourned the meeting at 9:39 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary