

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

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| Meeting: | <u>Regular Meeting</u> | Date: | <u>May 12, 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 7:04 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Mrs. Debbie Hamme 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

Mr. Zeidman requested to move item 14.2b up on the agenda to follow item 10.1. It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Mr. Gourley to approve the agenda as amended. 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 No items were withdrawn. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Dr. Russell to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.5 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 24, 2009 and April 27, 2009

9.2 Purchase Orders

9.3 Culver City Middle School and Culver City High School Cheerleaders to Attend the Universal Cheerleaders Association Summer Camp at UC San Diego, July 30-August 2, 2009

9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 16

9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 16

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations

10.1 Spotlight on Education - Office of Child Development

Mrs. Audrey Stephens, Director of the Office of Child Development, presented a DVD entitled, "Mathematics in The Early Years: Math is Everywhere." The DVD included images of preschool students discovering mathematical ideas and teachers fostering young students' information mathematical knowledge.

Board members thanked Mrs. Stephens for her presentation, and commended the staff at the Office of Child Development for all of their hard work.

14.2b Approval is Recommended for the Office of Child Development Agency Annual Report to the California Department of Education

It was moved by Mrs. Davis and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve Office of Child Development Agency Annual Report to the California Department of Education as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 16

Mrs. Davis mentioned that Consent Item 9.5 was supposed to be withdrawn from the agenda to pull item 2.1 off of Classified Personnel Report #16. Dr. Beagles-Roos suggested the Board re-vote on the item. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mrs. Davis to revote on Consent Item 9.5 with the amendment that item 2.1 on the report be removed. The motion was unanimously granted to approve the Classified Personnel Report No. 16 as amended.

10.2 Title I Funding Update

Ms. Laura introduced Mrs. Leslie Lockhart, Director of Special Projects, who gave a presentation on Title I and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds. Mrs. Lockhart gave an overview of Title I funding and explained the uses of Title I and ARRA funds. Alan Elmont suggested funding programs already in place and not starting any new programs with one-time money. Further discussion ensued regarding where cuts would be made, and what positions or programs funding could bring back. Mr. Zeidman requested a detailed restructuring plan that the Board could review.

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

Dr. Coté reported how well the District was represented at the Title I Academic Achievement Awards dinner that took place in Anaheim, and she gave an update on her attendance at the California City School Superintendents' Spring Conference. She announced that State Superintendent O'Connell released the annual dropout report and the newspapers should report a 2007-2008 statewide dropout rate of 20.1%. The District's dropout rate for the last two years has remained at a low 2.5%. Dr. Coté spoke about how she attributes quite a bit of the low dropout rate to the District's excellent alternative school, Culver Park.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Ms. Laura provided an update on the recent Anti-Bullying Task Force meeting, and she mentioned that a survey will be issued to students in the fall. Ms. Laura reported that an administrative retreat is currently being planned.

Mr. El Fattal reported on ARRA funds that have been identified for Special Education, and mentioned possible dates and amounts of funding that might be coming from the federal government. Mr. El Fattal also briefly spoke about the upcoming Special Election.

Mrs. Jaffe thanked the Education Foundation for the wonderful job that was done with the Tribute to the Stars, and she mentioned some of the highlights.

11.3 Members of the Audience

Dr. Russell suggested reducing the amount of time for the speakers to two minutes since there were a large number of speaker cards. All Board members agreed.

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Marta Zaragoza spoke about seeking an attorney to handle a matter regarding her son. She asked the Board to remember that the students are their constituents, and submitted a letter to begin her due process.
- Dianna Castro gave the Board background information on the Secretary 1 position at the high school, and asked that they consider reclassifying the position. Dr. Beagles-Roos asked that staff respond to her questions after the meeting.
- Karlo Silbiger spoke on behalf of the Culver City Democratic Club. Mr. Silbiger extended an invitation to the Board and audience members to attend the club's next meeting the following night which would include youth activism as a topic.
- Michael Laase commented that Tribute to the Stars was a great success, and that she was surprised that in this economy more money was raised this year than last year. Mrs. Laase commented on a rumor she had heard. She stated Mrs. Jaffe was an excellent contributor to the District. Dr. Russell and Dr. Beagles-Roos informed Mrs. Laase that she could not mention employee names when commenting during public recognition.

- Dan O'Brien commented that after hearing Dr. Coté's report it makes him want to attend more meetings. He stated the community wants to do what is best for the kids. He encouraged the Board to keep the cuts as far away from the classrooms as possible.
- Joanna Maxwell, who is an Instructional Aide, spoke about the special education students' needs and behavioral issues.
- Patricia Marquez spoke about how the Instructional Assistants are needed and urged the Board to rethink how they are making decisions.
- Isabel Musquiz spoke about how important the Special Education Instructional Assistants are and shared some of her experiences.
- William Lockhart, a Special Education Teacher, commented on how the special education population has grown and how cutting the work hours of the assistants affect the students.
- Student Eddie Zuniga spoke in favor of keeping the Instructional Assistants, and spoke about how important taking the CAHSEE is to him.
- Sean Herbert spoke in favor of keeping the Instructional Assistants and shared experiences of their hard work.
- Abel Navar urged the Board not to cut the Instructional Assistants for special education.
- Kathy McConkey extended an invitation to everyone for AVPA's JAVA Gala benefit on May 22nd at Robert Frost Auditorium.
- Alejandro Guzman spoke in favor of keeping the Instructional Assistants.
- Juliann MacNicoll spoke in favor of keeping the Instructional Assistants.
- Andrew Burke said that it is imperative that the assistants stay in the classroom and that the students have individualized attention.
- Shirley Herbert stated that she would rather see everyone take a pay cut rather than cut the Instructional Assistants.
- Mary Carney urged the Board not to make cuts.
- Davie Mielke stated that now the Board is starting to see the human effects of the cuts, and the Board should not cut any hours from the Instructional Assistants.
- Ronald Combs urged the Board not to cut back on the services for special education students, and keep the funding for the aides.
- Royel Beard urged the Board not to cut the aides.
- Andrea Stevenson thanked the Board for keeping the aides at the elementary schools, and urged them to keep the Instructional Assistants that are currently on the reduction list.
- Alana Shapiro asked the Board to reconsider cutting any of the Instructional Assistants.
- Diane Kaiser spoke as an advocate for the special education students.

Dr. Beagles-Roos thanked all of the students that came to the meeting and shared their comments.

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 tickets being sold for the Spring Dance; the upcoming Spirit Week events; the auditions were going to be held for the 2009 Variety Show; Earth Day event on May 29th; the June 3rd Jeopardy-style Contest; eighth grade Grad Night; and the elections for the ninth grade class.

Culver Park Student Representative

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

Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member

Opal Dillard, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including the ASB election results with Victor Burnett winning for President and Noemi Kolansky winning for Vice President; upcoming plans for Summerfest; the UCLA Blood Drive; how the students are handling the issue of having no

receptionist in the Main Office; block scheduling for testing; and she shared how the students have been trying to include the special education students in more activities.

11.5 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Gourley thanked everyone that came to the meeting and spoke. He stated the Board has gone over the reductions and the Board is going to do what they can do for funding.
- Dr. Russell commended Miss Dillard for keeping an open mind on her college choices. He requested additional information on the Special Education Instructional Assistants and the process that the District takes in the reductions. Dr. Russell stated that he likes to think that the Special Education population has always been included in activities at the school sites, and he stated that he was proud to be in attendance at the Title 1 Achievement Awards where Linwood E. Howe and La Ballona Elementary Schools were honored. Dr. Russell commented that he is against having one assistant superintendent in the District because that was attempted years ago and it did not work very well. He also inquired as to how the one time stimulus funds will be spent.
- Mr. Zeidman agreed with Dr. Russell about getting additional information on the process of cutting employees, and he announced that City Council applied for a grant to assist with traffic on the Elenda gateway. Mr. Zeidman reported on his attendance at the Tribute to the Stars event.
- Mrs. Davis thanked everyone for attending the meeting and speaking. She reported on her attendance at the Title 1 Achievement Awards and mentioned it was great to have Christine Collins, Principal at La Ballona Elementary, recognized. Mrs. Davis commented that she had purchased a ticket for the Tribute to the Stars but was unable to attend, and thanked the Education Foundation for their hard work on the event every year. Mrs. Davis stated if any salary cuts were to be made, the cuts should affect all employees and not just management. Salary cuts should not just be for one group or one individual, and that some teachers' salaries are higher than the assistant superintendents. Mr. Gourley and Mrs. Davis agreed with Dr. Russell's request.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos congratulated Miss Dillard on her university acceptances and her commitment to the students in special education. Dr. Beagles-Roos commented on the success of the Tribute to the Stars and how the events were continuing to make money even in these economic times; and she reported on her attendance at the Title 1 Achievement Awards. Dr. Beagles-Roos said the District will have limited resources next year and the Board will work to help all of the students.

12. Information Items

12.1 First Reading of Revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 5144.1, Students – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Mr. Zeidman requested to have this item removed from the agenda. Mrs. Davis seconded the request. Mr. Zeidman requested that it be modified and then brought back to a later meeting. Further discussion ensued. Dr. Beagles-Roos requested to have the Board Policy presented before the Administrative Regulation. The vote was 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays to postpone the reading of the Board Policy and Administrative Regulation.

12.2 First Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation 4161.8, Family Medical Leave

Mrs. Jaffe presented the information on the revised Administrative Regulation and explained that it was being brought forward to meet compliance. Mrs. Jaffe explained that the Administrative Regulation will also be presented to the ACE and CCFT unions. The Board suggested revisions. The Administrative Regulation will be brought back for adoption.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 9:14 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 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**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Mr. Zeidman that the Board approve the Renewed Contract for the Position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources as amended. Karlo Silbiger commented that with the budget cuts he was concerned about renewing the contract for two years, and suggested a renewal term of one year. He also stated that even though the salary is public information it should be included in the contract presented along with the fringe benefits. Robert Gray stated that his comments were being directed at management in general and not at Mrs. Jaffe's contract specifically. He felt that management should lead by example and take a salary cut. Jamie Wallace encouraged people to look beyond their own schools and have an interest in the District as a whole. She also urged management to take a voluntary salary cut of five percent. Roger Maxwell commented on the perception in the community about the District and suggested not voting at this meeting on the budget cuts. Mr. Zeidman stated that the budget cuts are his second biggest fear. An even bigger fear is having a budget crisis without Mrs. Jaffe. He would like to see everyone take a vote on a salary cut and not just one group. Dr. Russell stated he had the same concerns that other people have, and that you cannot ask one group or one person to take a salary cut. If the District is going to cut salaries, everyone would need to participate. Mrs. Davis agreed. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2 Education Services Items**14.2a Approval is Recommended for Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policy 5030 – Wellness Policy**

It was moved by Mr. Zeidman and seconded by Dr. Russell that the Board adopt the Revised Board Policy 5030, Students – Wellness as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

Mr. El Fattal presented the information. Mr. Gourley asked for clarification on the items that were presented. Mr. Zeidman suggested postponing a vote. Dr. Coté urged the Board to make a decision, and explained that in order to proceed with the restructuring process action needed to be taken on this item. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Gourley stated that he was still against the cuts until the results are in after the May 19th election. Dr. Beagles-Roos moved to proceed by each individual line item. Mr. Gourley stated he was against voting on all of the items, and he objected going through the items because the classified personnel had left the meeting. The original motion was terminated for lack of a second from Board members. Dr. Beagles-Roos confirmed that the Board did not want to vote line by line. Board members agreed they did not want to take that action. Dr. Coté requested if a plan is presented for restructuring with the budget cuts and without the budget cuts, can the reduction list be brought back. Board members approved her request.

15. Board Business**15.1 Discussion of Board Bylaw 9100, Organization**

Karlo Silbiger provided information on how the Bylaw came to be. He stated that he hated the idea of members being bypassed and everyone should have their turn to serve as president. Mr. Zeidman stated that he requested this Bylaw be brought forward for discussion. He suggested that every year the Board elect the president. Dr. Russell stated he thought it was nice that there was a rotation. Mr. Zeidman provided his revisions to provide clarity. The Bylaw will be brought back for a first reading.

15.2 Discussion of Community Budget Advisory Committee Role and Function

Mr. Zeidman stated that he would like to set up a sub-committee to work through some of the issues regarding CBAC and bring the information back to the Board. Board members agreed. Further discussion ensued. Karlo Silbiger strongly recommended revamping the information and gave his suggestions. He also stated he did not

think it was appropriate to have a staff member as the Chair. Michael Laase apologized to Mr. Gourley for saying earlier that he never attended any of the Tribute to the Stars events. Mrs. Laase commented that the Board needed to spend funds that are currently there for the natatorium and decide on another project. Robert Gray stated that he thought there needed to be a large number of parents on CBAC. He thought CBAC did a good job with the budget and gave his suggestions on restructuring the committee. Alan Elmont commented that CBAC does have some organizational issues and stated what he felt could be done to revamp the committee. He thanked the Board for listening to their recommendations. Janet Chabola agreed that improvements could be made and urged the Board to forget the two year rule. She stated that CBAC needed to have an attendance policy and that more information needs to be available to the committee. Dr. Beagles-Roos called for any volunteers for the sub-committee. Mr. Zeidman and Dr. Russell volunteered.

16. Public Recognition – Continued

16.1 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Alan Elmont commented on the responsibility of the District and spoke about transparency. He stated that staff needs to bring forth the organizational plans for the District.

16.2 Members of the Board

Members of the Board spoke about:

- Dr. Russell complimented the District on how well budget issues were handled after reading the latest articles regarding other Districts. He also felt there needed to be more discussions on quality education.
- Mr. Gourley commented that he promised George Laase that he would mention the Board Health and Welfare benefits, and told Mr. Laase that he could submit what he thinks the chart should look like.
- Dr. Beagles-Roos announced that the Parcel Tax meeting would be held on May 20th and suggested that two Board members attend. Dr. Beagles-Roos and Mr. Zeidman agreed to attend.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Zeidman, seconded by Dr. Russell and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Dr. Beagles-Roos adjourned the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary