

CALAVERAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 788
San Andreas, CA 95249
MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 5, 2008

The meeting of the Calaveras Unified School District Board of Trustees was called to order at the 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherri Reusche
John Yerman
Zerrall McDaniel
Evan Garamendi
Hank Nagle

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Frost
Mark Campbell
William Hamilton
Kimberly Osmanski-Potter
Amy Hasselwander
Michael Merrill
Ric Stitt
Karen Dickerson
Karen Wallace
Marilyn Alarcon-Warzecka
Peggy Stout
Trish Baugus
Maddie Perpignan
Terri Henderson

OTHERS: Parents, community members
and other interested parties

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with the salute to the flag and roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Closed session items were announced as listed on the agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

At this time the public is invited to offer comments or direct questions to the Board concerning any topic within the Board's jurisdiction whether on the agenda or not. Time will be limited to five minutes per item with a twenty minute maximum for input.

CLOSED SESSION

AHP 2007/08-04

OPEN SESSION

A. Salute to the Flag and Roll Call

Chairperson, Zerrall McDaniel requested a vote to modify item XII. PERSONNEL, Management/Confidential/Supervisory, (2), Superintendent's Recommendation for 2008/09 Administrative Team and remove the shared Principal at West Point and Rail Road Flat Elementary Schools. The Board has questions and wants to look at other options for West Point and Rail Road Flat Schools.

MSC 5-0 to modify Item XII. PERSONNEL, Management/Confidential/Supervisory, (2), Superintendent's Recommendation for 2008/09 Administrative Team.

OPEN SESSION: PUBLIC REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION
AHP 2007/08-04

MSC 5-0 to approve the Administrative Hearing Panel's recommendation that the student be expelled from Calaveras High School through June 2008, with alternate placement at Mountain Ranch Community School under the terms and conditions of a rehabilitation plan. The student is in violation of Ed Code 4899 (g) and (k).

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Frost spoke about a memo he has just sent to all staff district wide regarding the Governor's budget recommendations. We are looking at the largest budget cuts we have seen. The Governor's proposal is a ten percent (10%) cut across the board and a suspension of proposition 98, which is the mandatory base funding requirement for K-12 education. The cuts affect CUSD more because many districts don't have transportation costs or the large encroachment from special education. The reality is, things do not look promising. We have never had faced deficits like we are now. Mr. Frost explained that Basic Aid districts will actually get more dollars and the gap will only get larger. The district will need to plan for a worse case scenario. This is not a happy time for education.

CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Marilyn Alarcon, teacher from West Point Elementary School, addressed the board about the Superintendent's Recommendation for the 2008/09 Administrative Team. She said she was glad that it was modified and pulled from the agenda tonight, as the staff at West Point Elementary has many concerns with not having an administrator on campus. She said having an administrator has made a positive impact at the school and has been good for morale. Administration has been able to defuse situations with students, parents, and transportation.

CONSENT AGENDA

MSC 5-0, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented

A. Approval of Minutes
January 15, 2008

B. Routine Personnel

All Personnel – No item presented

Classified Personnel

1. Approve employment of one substitute Custodian/Gardener
2. Approve employment of one probationary Office Manager
3. Approve placement of one permanent Child Care Instructor on 39-month rehire
4. Approve employment of one substitute Health Aide
5. Approve employment of two probationary Campus Monitors

Certificated Personnel

1. Approve employment of one long-term substitute Special Education teacher.

Management/Confidential/Supervisory

1. Approve Range increase for one Coordinator of Personnel

C. Approval, Vendor Warrant Listing

The vendor warrant listing through January 30, 2008, is presented for approval. ***Members of the Board have been provided with a copy of this document; it is available for review in the district office.***

D. Approval of Donations (Bill Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent for Fiscal Services)

(See attached list)

E. Rejection of Claim: Omstead

Jana Omstead has filed a claim against the Calaveras Unified School District. At the recommendation of the District's property and liability insurance administrator, the claim is being presented for rejection. Rejection of the claim is requested.

F. Approval, Signatories on Jenny Lind Elementary School Bank Account

Umpqua Bank requires board approved minutes in order to change signatories on any school account. Jenny Lind Elementary School needs to remove Annette Danmeier and add Lisa Hill.

ACTON ON ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

No items removed from the consent agenda.

PERSONNEL

Certificated Report

Karen Wallace, CUEA representative reported that CUEA would meet tomorrow after school. Ms. Wallace was asked again to make the board aware of an issue at San Andreas Elementary School that is not resolved.

Classified Report

Peggy Stout, CSEA representative, reported CSEA had met in "Round Table" and that it was positive. February 21st, is their next CSEA meeting. She advised everyone that in February they nominate two delegates for the conference to be held in Las Vegas. In March they vote for the two delegates.

Ms. McDaniel informed us that Terri Henderson's son just left for China. Terry is a Food Transport Driver for the district and let us know that her son will be living there for a year and was employed to teach English.

All Personnel

No item presented

Classified Personnel

No item presented

Certificated Personnel

MSC 5-0 to accept the Public Disclosure of Costs to Initiate Retirement Incentive for Certificated Employees under the STRS Golden Handshake.

MSC 5-0 to approve the Job Share requests for the 2008/09 school year.

MSC 5-0 to approve the request to apply for a Provisional Internship permit for Susan Brant to teach the special education structured moderate/severe classroom at San Andreas Elementary School with no objections.

PERSONNEL

Management/Confidential/Supervisory

MSC 5-0 to approve the Administrative Negotiations team for 2008/09 with Liz Valdez as spokesperson.

MSC to 5-0 to approve the Superintendent's Recommendation for 2008/09 Administrative Team with the modification to remove the shared principal at West Point and Rail Road Flat Elementary Schools.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Discussion, Public Relations Plan

Chairperson Zerrall McDaniel explained that the board wants to get more information out about activities going on in our district. She would like to open up communications throughout our schools and community. She has asked board member Sherri Reusche as CSBA Legislative representative to make an effort to have CSBA make March, Parent Appreciation Month. She noted that the district held a parent-teacher celebration last March, 2007, and would like to make it an annual event.

Ms. McDaniel asked if anyone had thoughts on how we might better our public relations. She mentioned one possibility could be the creation of brochures about our district that we could distribute to real estate offices.

Mr. Nagle said we have started involving students in creating a new logo for the district.

It was also noted that it would be a great public relations move to have our web page updated.

Ms. McDaniel also suggested we hold meetings in each community at least once a year. She asked if the local newspaper could publish a quarterly column in their paper about our schools.

Mike Taylor, reporter from the "Calaveras Enterprise Newspaper," informed Ms. McDaniel that the Enterprise Newspaper has now created "The Chalk Board," putting information about what is going on in our schools. Ms. McDaniel asked how the district could contribute to this new public relations forum.

Mrs. Garamendi suggested that public communication about administrative changes should involve communities and schools before the district makes a final decision.

Ms. McDaniel thinks we can do a better job at public relations; more discussions with staff, along those lines.

Mr. Nagle suggested we become involved with other agencies. He has been talking with District 2 Supervisor, Steve Wilensky, about community projects that Mr. Wilensky is interested in the Rail Road Flat area. The project Mr. Wilensky is working on would allow twenty to thirty homes to be built. That would increase enrollment in that area. He also said the school district needs to work with the county on this.

Mr. Frost voiced his concerns regarding low-income housing as Highway 4 corridor schools do not share that burden with our district. Calaveras Unified also has the largest special education encroachment and Highway 4 schools get more money. Mr. Frost said these are the issues we need to discuss with Supervisor Wilensky.

Ms. McDaniel suggested future study sessions.

Mr. Yerman said he would like to see keyboarding as a sixth grade requirement. He feels it would help students more at that grade level than waiting until seventh grade.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Discussion, Public Relations Plan (continued)

Mr. Nagle would like to have some type of instrument, either computer notepad or laptop for each student. He also would like to see a Pacific Rim language offered at the high school. Right now he said he is interested in Senate Bill 1139, Small but Necessary Schools. This bill would greatly help Rail Road Flat Elementary. It is now in committee and we will need to do a letter writing campaign to our legislators supporting this bill.

Mrs. Garamendi asked if there was a certain dollar amount. Mr. Frost informed her it was based on teacher ratio. Mrs. Garmendi said it is important that all our sites look beautiful. If something looks good on the outside it will be obvious that everything on the inside is just as nice.

Ms. Reusche said she would like to see the best nutrition we can have at our schools. She had been hoping for a grant at Jenny Lind Elementary to purchase the property next to the school so some students would actually be able to walk to school. She went on to say that we have technology from pre-school through twelfth grade.

Ms. Dickerson discussed grant writing for technology and that it is very difficult.

Mr. Nagle said he would like to see a robotics class if it could be funded.

Ms. McDaniel said her hope is to have a parent club recognition month. She would like to develop a community service path for our students that would not impact our teachers. She'd like to see it become a mindset for our students.

Ms. McDaniel asked Mike Merrill, Principal of Calaveras High School, if there was an information packet on how to start a club. Mr. Merrill said they would need to go through Greg Howard, Activities Director, and yes, there is an information packet.

BUSINESS

No item presented.

POLICY AND REGULATIONS

First Reading

1. BP 1220, Citizen Advisory Committee
2. BP 1230, School-Connected Organizations
3. BP 1260, Educational Foundation
4. BP 3314, Payment for Goods and Services
5. BP 3400, Management of District Assets/Accounts
6. BP 3452, Student Activity Funds
7. BP 3511, Energy and Water Management

Second Reading and Adoption

MSC 5-0, to adopt the following policies:

1. BP 0440, District Technology Plan
2. BP 0520, Intervention for Under performing Schools (Delete)
3. BP 1113, District and School Web Sites
4. BP 2220, Administrative Staff Organization (Delete)
5. BP 4117.12/4317.12, Retirement Consultancy Contracts (Delete)
6. BP 4313.2, Demotion/Reassignment
7. BP 6162.7, Use of Technology in Instruction (Delete)

POLICY AND REGULATIONS (continued)

Administrative Regulations/Exhibits

1. AR 1220, Citizen Advisory Committees
2. AR 1230, School-Connected Organizations
3. AR 1250, Visitors/Outsiders
4. AR 3314, Payment for Goods and Services
5. AR 3511, Energy and Water Management
6. AR 3513.1, Cellular Phone Reimbursement
7. AR 3516.3, Earthquake Emergency Procedures System
8. AR 4040, Employee Use of Technology
9. AR 4113.4/4213.4/4313.4, Temporary Modified Light-Duty Assignment
10. AR 4143.1/4243.1, Public Notice Personnel Negotiations
11. AR 4261, Personal Illness/Injury Leave
12. AR 5142, Safety
13. AR 6142.7, Physical Education
14. AR 6163.4, Student Use of Technology
15. AR 6164.41, Children with Disabilities Enrolled by Their Parents in Private School
16. AR 6179, Supplemental Instruction

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Yerman reminded us about the Annual Shrimp Feed to be held March 15, 2008. Proceeds will benefit students going to Science Camp. Mr. Yerman personally thanked Mike Merrill and Mike Taylor for helping to do the dishes at the Lion's crab feed. They netted about \$7000.00.

Mr. Nagle mentioned again low wealth and small but necessary schools. We will need a lot of support.

Mrs. Garamendi reminded us of Election Day and hopes we are happy with the results. She also congratulated those staff members who are moving into new positions for the 2008/09 school year.

Ms. Reusche thanked Mike Taylor and the "Calaveras Enterprise Newspaper" for the line of communication they have created with the "Chalk Board." She added that next week Rotary District 5220 sponsors a Youth Leadership Camp.

Ms. McDaniel said it was nice to have food service employees in attendance tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Wallace, teacher from Toyon Middle School, informed us that Toyon will hold a relay for life. Their goal is \$5000.00. If a student from Toyon contacts you for sponsorship, sponsor them. Ms. Wallace said she has never seen the students this excited. She also noted that Dustyn, also a teacher from Toyon Middle School, is putting this all together.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on February 19, 2008, 7:00 p.m. District Administrative Offices.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.