

CALAVERAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 788

San Andreas, CA 95249

**MINUTES – SPECIAL SESSION**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 8, 2011**

The meeting of the Calaveras Unified School District Board of Trustees was called to order at the District Administrative Offices at 4:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karan Bowsher  
Evan Garamendi  
Sherri Reusche  
Zerrall McDaniel  
John Yerman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark Campbell  
Mike Merrill  
Liz Valdez  
Maria Ortner  
Ric Stitt  
Karen Wallace  
Jim Ditzler  
Allison Hampton  
Bunnie Hale  
Jennifer Minton  
Mark Caruso  
Dawn England  
Valerie Conrado  
Sara Cobb  
CeCe Baseman  
A. K. Smith  
Kristen Duffloth  
Dobbie Fletcher  
Jen Johnson  
Jim Casey  
Michelle Olivarria  
Susan Wolters  
Lorraine Angel  
Denise Gustafson  
Kathy Risso  
Dave Brainerd  
Shirley Bell  
Amy Hasselwander  
Michelle Besmer  
Lisa McInturf  
Randall Youngblood  
Meryl Leigh Brainerd  
Miranda Cardon  
Renetta Hale  
Annette Kautzer  
Lois Durkee  
Angela Acuna  
Leslie Cambra  
Shannon Kenney  
Connie Roberson  
Sharon Schlegelmilch  
Rochelle Pena  
Pamela Smylie  
Michelle Erbeck  
Donna Guadagni  
Kevin Hesser  
Mary Quindimil  
Deb Hunt  
Kari Baca  
Katie Harris  
Terri Pendley  
Nadine Ost-Alberts  
Celia Richardson

**OTHERS:** Members of the Community

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** - No absences

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The March 8, 2011 agenda was approved.

### **PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT CLOSED SESSION**

Renetta Hale gave invitations to the Board to shadow a teacher for a day. Mrs. Hampton said as a follow-up to WASC, they want to improve the communication with our Board. Mr. Gustafson asked a question about the difference between certified bonds and COP's. Mr. Campbell said we will provide him with the answer but not go into a lengthy discussion during this session. Mr. Caruso said it was an honor and privilege to teach at Jenny Lind since 1999. Jenny Lind has a dedicated staff and many worthwhile programs. He asked the Board to look at other avenues to bring in revenue and help teachers do what they do best – teaching kids.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Campbell wanted to bring clarity on what occurred during the March 1, 2011 Board meeting. He takes full responsibility with how things went last Tuesday. There was a lack of clarity and direction. Things are already hard on people and he apologizes. He wants to shed some light on our fiscal reality. Staffing is 85% of our budget so it makes sense that we have to reduce staff. These reductions are currently a precautionary measure. We are bound by timelines. Through negotiations and joint study sessions there will be many more conversations. People make the heart and soul of the district but, in turn, make up a large part of the budget, so we are hard-pressed to look elsewhere. We have no idea on how the tax extension will affect us at this point in time. We don't know the final number on our enrollments and all of these things put us in a very challenging position. He apologized again for last Tuesday and, hopefully, tonight we can place clarity and direction, at least for this point in time.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Mrs. McDaniel said this is a precautionary item. It doesn't mean the cuts will or won't happen. There are several things being talked about and worked on that will hopefully generate more money and maybe a large amount of money will be ADA driven and we may not have to approach this again. She wanted to reiterate one more time the importance of getting the word out to everybody on supporting the tax extension, for even those who don't have kids in school. She will be supporting it.

Mr. Garamendi said item "a" (under Personnel) is Mr. Campbell's recommendation. Item "b" is the actual resolution for the reduction of staff. If our retirement incentives are approved (PARS), it could have an impact on the reductions but we do not have the PARS information at this time. We are working under at timeline just in case these reductions have to occur. We are looking at other things. We don't want this to fall on the backs of our children. I know the annuities are not going to involve this issue but this is coming up for discussion again in April.

Mrs. Bowsher asked what percent of our budget are teachers' salaries. Mr. Merrill said it is 47%.for salaries and benefits. She asked if we are looking at the \$1.4 million in cuts being 47% from teachers. Mr. Merrill said we are looking at our entire budget and if we can do other things further away from affecting students, we will.

Mrs. Reusche wanted to clarify her vote last week. She said it is very difficult, with her children attending Jenny Lind Elementary, to have the majority of the teacher layoffs impact Jenny Lind. It's a very emotional and difficult situation. She stated that we are family and asked to be forgiven for stumbling through this and she knows fiscally she has to make decisions for all kids.

MINUTES CUSD Board of Trustees  
March 8, 2011

Mr. Gustafson asked what the difference is between certificated and classified salaries and where do administrative salaries fall. He also asked if we were looking at anything besides laying off teachers.

Mr. Campbell said classified salaries are staff who are not teachers such as custodians, paraeducators, office staff and certified are teachers and administrators. He stated this is purely timeline driven and that's why we are looking at teachers right now and increasing class size.

Teachers commented on various issues such as giving the Superintendent a raise during these times; asking more and more of teachers; the district should consider other areas for cuts; things are supposed to be equitable across the board for everyone; kids are having difficulty during these hard economic times at home and the classroom is their only refuge in many cases, yet we are going to make it more difficult by increasing class size; using the Federal funding to save jobs --where is that money going now? One teacher asked why the Board approved a 12% raise for Mr. Campbell.

Mrs. Reusche said there were a lot of things said and numbers thrown out that are not accurate. She recommended people discuss these topics with their union representatives, who attend the negotiation sessions and Round Tables, where the specifics and correct information is distributed.

Mr. Campbell said they will have discussion about these items in negotiations, Round Table and joint study sessions. Everything is up for grabs and on the table. He said he would all resend a districtwide email that he sent out last April regarding his contract.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MSC 4-1 (Garamendi – was absent from the 3-1-11 meeting)**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

March 1, 2011

## **PERSONNEL** (Mark Campbell, Superintendent)

**A. Approval, Recommendation of the Superintendent Concerning Reduction of Certificated Services for the 2011/2012 School Year**

The Superintendent is recommending particular kinds of service now being provided by the District be reduced or discontinued in the 2011/2012 school year.

**MSC 4-1 (Nay: Reusche) to approve the Superintendent's recommendation concerning reduction of Certificated services for the 2011-2012 school year.**

**B. Adoption, Resolution No. 2010/11-14, Regarding the Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Services (Certificated Layoff)**

Approval is requested to adopt Resolution No. 2010/11-14, regarding the Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Services (Certificated Layoff)

**MSC 4-1 (Nay: Reusche) to approve Resolution 2010/11-14, regarding the Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Services (Certificated Layoff)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Open session was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

- a) Conference with Labor Negotiator: Mark Campbell in regard to negotiations with CSEA (Gov. Code 54957.6)
- b) Conference with Labor Negotiator: Mark Campbell in regard to negotiations with CUEA (Gov. Code 54957.6)
- c) Conference with Labor Negotiator: Mark Campbell in regard to negotiations with Management/Confidential/Supervisory (Gov. Code 54957.6)
- d) Conference with Labor Negotiator: Mark Campbell in regard to negotiations with CASTA (Gov. Code 54957.6)
- e) To Consider the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation of Performance, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Employee (Gov. Code 54957)

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION** - No action taken

**CELEBRATIONS, RECOGNITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Parent/Volunteer Appreciation**

The CUSD Board of Trustees recognized and honored parent/school volunteers. These volunteers had an opportunity to meet and share ideas. Refreshments were served.

**Dave Tanner – CHS**

Mr. Tanner is President of the CHS Band Boosters and of the CHS Trap Shooting Club. He gave his thanks to the parents who support these clubs/organizations and provided information to the Board regarding fundraising, activities and field trips as well as how involvement in these clubs inspire students to do well in school.

**Gina Sullivan – CHS Athletic Boosters (CAB)**

Mrs. Sullivan said she was the first female President of the CAB and believes she is more firm and fair in her decisions than a lot of the men were. They support all of the sports at CHS; although some teams have their own booster clubs as well. Their biggest fundraisers are the Tri-tip dinners at the football games. This year they gave two scholarships away.

**Ric Stitt – Principal of CHS**

Mr. Stitt said there is also a great Ag Booster Club, a wrestling booster club. There is a parent group that is more for the global good of the school, which serves a wide group of students. There's a cheer group, Sportsman Club, ROP Advisory Committee that serves the individuals ROP interests, people who run the snack bar during games, a WASC Accreditation group. There is also a group of parents who work on Grad Night. There is always something to do and we welcome our volunteers. They are all very creative and I am very thankful for their help.

**Lisa McInturf – Principal Toyon Middle School**

Mrs. McInturf said they have a 50% turnover of volunteers every year because they only serve two grades. She encourages all parents and staff to participate in PSC. This year they did a Walk-a-Thon, which involved all students. Their parent club supported the landscaping project. Their school has beautiful daffodils in bloom right now. Parents have made generous donations of time and plants. They also made it possible to get new science lab tables and furniture as well as picnic tables. They have stepped up and are working on a yearbook. The President of the Parent Club is a painter and he volunteered to paint the outside of their gym. Mrs. McInturf thanked them and said she welcomes parent and community volunteers.

**Amber Barci – JLE PTO President**

Mrs. Barci provided information about their fundraisers, Trunk or Treat, Casino Night, Santa's Workshop, Stockton Thunder, Walk-a-Thon, Book Fairs, the Circus, Fine Arts Day, Movie Nights, a garden for growing vegetables that they will donate to the food bank, and other events. Teachers get funds for their classrooms, some goes to science camp, books and food for various events throughout the year.

**Martha O'Leary – RRF Parent Club President**

Mrs. O'Leary said they are a very small club from a very small school but they have an active student council. The parent club coordinates the events but they get 20 or 30 parents to participate in the activities. They do walk-a-thons, Luau Days, Halloween Carnival, Santa's Workshop, book fairs, Valentine candy service, fine arts day, reading for sundaes, Tiger pride clean-up day, bingo, Spa Day in conjunction with the UC Davis Extension for nutrition programs.. They will do an Italian Dinner for Open House, which the students will help prepare and they are planning the Last Day of School Event. The student council is raising money to have their flag pole replaced.

**Ann Jasper – SAE Parent Club President**

Mrs. Jasper said they would like to have more parents involved in their club. They do various fundraisers such as the spaghetti dinner and bingo, See's candy sales, school beautification, a pumpkin patch at the school for Halloween, Santa's Secret Workshop (they ordered from Oriental Trading and purchases from the Dollar Store), snacks for STAR testing, She shared a site called DonorsChoice.org, whereby you can put your "wishlist" and people go onto the site and give donations. They did a coloring contest for their yearbook and had over 40 entries. They chose 4 for the yearbook – one being the cover. They also made possible the sign in the front of their school. Mrs. Ortner said they are being incredibly modest. They do so much for the school. All the teachers have to do is ask and somehow they manage to get it done.

**Tatum Lowry – WPE Parent Club President**

Mrs. Lowry shared some of their events, such as the Halloween Carnival. This year the merchants came to the school and they used the gym. They do a Thanksgiving Feast and had an incredible turnout; Santa's Workshop. They decided to do Surprise Prize Bingo on Saturday night and made \$1,200. All the classrooms received \$200. They have See's candy sales, a garden, Enrichment Fridays. Next month they will have a bingo to give away half hams and See's candy. They are doing a walk-a-thon on May 13, a fine arts day, book fairs, Teacher Appreciation, Mustang attendance and skills awards, Mr. Casey said they really appreciate the parent group at WPE.

**Cherie McKelvie – VSE Parent Group President**

Mrs. McKelvie said they do two large fundraisers a year. They do the Bulldog Track, in which they earned \$10,000 this year, and Math Mania, which they just finished and do not yet have the final dollar figures. Twenty-five percent of the Bulldog Track money is given to the classrooms. They use funds for school beautification and science camp. This year they will begin putting money for Kindergarteners each year until 6<sup>th</sup> grade – this is the first year they began this practice. They also support the teachers by having Marchand do art classes. They had Marchand do a mural for Kindness Week. They do music lessons with Mr. Roberson. They have book fairs and they are going to host an event whereby families who do side jobs (Tupperware, Cookie Lee, etc.) will come to the school so families can shop. This event is planned for April 9. They did it last year with much success and the 4-H will be having a pancake breakfast that morning. They save MarVal receipts and Box Tops for Education, which they refer to as “free money.”

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Mike Taylor addressed the audience, encouraging them to contact him for press coverage and/or getting events posted in the newspaper calendar of events. He can be emailed at [mtaylor@calaverasenterprise.com](mailto:mtaylor@calaverasenterprise.com) or [mtaylor@sierralodestar.com](mailto:mtaylor@sierralodestar.com)

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – No item presented

**NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting of the CUSD Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2011. Closed Session begins at 4:30 p.m. Open Session begins at 6:00 p.m.

**24. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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Mark Campbell, Superintendent  
By Shirley Bell, Administrative Assistant