

CALAVERAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 788

San Andreas, CA 95249

**MINUTES – STUDY SESSION**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**February 23, 2013**

The meeting of the Calaveras Unified School District Board of Trustees was called to order at the District Administrative Offices at 9:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Zerrall McDaniel  
Karan Bowsher  
Gregory Gustafson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Evan Garamendi  
Sherri Reusche

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark Campbell  
Titia Ashby  
Kathy Risso  
Randall Youngblood  
Jan Kendall  
Liz Stanko  
Shirley Bell  
Lorraine Angel

**OTHERS:** Members of the Community

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL** - Board members Evan Garamendi and Sherri Reusche were absent.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MSC – 3-0 (Garamendi and Reusche absent) to approve the January 23, 2013 agenda**

**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 Calaveras Area Substitute Teachers Association (Gov. Code 54957)**
- e) **To Consider the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation of Performance, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Employee (Gov. Code 54957)**

**PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT** - None presented

**CLOSED SESSION**

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION** - Open session was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL**

There was a salute to the flag. Roll call was taken. Board members Evan Garamendi and Sherri Reusche were absent.

**OPEN SESSION: REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

In closed session the Governing Board accepted a resignation agreement related to the position of Maintenance and Operations Supervisor by a unanimous vote (Garamendi and Reusche absent).

**CELEBRATIONS, RECOGNITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – No items presented

**STUDY SESSION**

**California School Board Association**

Board members gave a report on the workshops attended at the California School Boards Association conference in November 2012. They shared programs relating to ROP journeyman programs, where students are paid to learn. These programs at other district are paid by local unions. Mrs. McDaniel will meet with other school districts in the county so she can provide feedback to the CSBA as a delegate. She will also be serving on the CSBA planning committee for the next conference. Mr. Gustafson discussed a workshop he attended about suspensions and expulsions and the relevance of how to help students without taking them out of school. He also attended a labor relations workshop and learned a great deal about the years of expertise it takes and how important it is to have the right people in place. He also went to a workshop on IEP and the legalities surrounding them. Mrs. Bowsher learned about a program called On Track California, which allows districts to use of data to track various records for students. She also attended a workshop on how districts can better capture Medicare reimbursements. Mr. Gustafson and Mrs. Bowsher also attend other workshops – one for first time board members and the other for first time board Presidents.

**BREAK 10:50-11:00 a.m.**

**Bond Options and Plans**

Mrs. Bowsher read out loud an email that Oversight Bond Committee member Jean Gonsalves sent regarding her priority list of projects for the bond money (Mrs. Gonsalves could not attend the study session).

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**Bond Options and Plans - Continued**

Board members shared their thoughts regarding priorities for the bond money. Mrs. McDaniel desires to use the money for some type of performing arts center, as that is what the voters wanted. She suggested we look into building some type of amphitheater. She believes that Mrs. Gonsalves' list is all centered around sports, which fulfills needs for many students, but music is a core subject and the district has already spent much of the bond money on sports-related projects (CHS track and field, TMS track and field, swimming pool, to name a few). We need to address our students in the arts and music, whose facilities are totally inadequate. Mr. Gustafson spoke about how the Cal Stadium was rebuilt and the PAC at Weston Ranch was built for under \$4 million (Mrs. McDaniel thought the Weston Ranch PAC cost a lot more to built – they will find out). Mr. Gustafson mentioned visiting school sites and how there was a need to make repairs and improvements to facilities. He mentioned that he didn't see any drama or music teachers at the Board meeting.

Community member Bob Lightsell from Mokelumne Hill said he voted for the bond on the basis of the Performing Arts Center. His children graduated from CHS in the 80's. He goes to events put on by the Arts Council and would like to have a PAC at this end of the county. Our students and outside organizations could use our PAC. He came to the Board meeting in support of building a Performing Arts Center. Mr. Lightsell said we spend a lot of money on athletics. It is important to have both arts and athletics for our students. He has never been to a school board meeting before but said a lot of people voted for the Performing Arts Center and if we tried to pass another bond in ten years, no one would believe that we would follow through with building another PAC.

Community member Bob Geiszler said the county is building the jail for \$40 million because the people voted for it and they are moving forward with it because of that.

Community member Marge Geiszler thanked the Board for their time and services on a Saturday. She feels strongly we should move forward with building a Performing Arts Center. We passed this bond 7 years ago. The athletics had their facilities and playing fields improved and now it is time to build the PAC. It would be a very long time before voters would approve another bond for a PAC – we voted for it once already in 2006.

Community member Marti Crane said the community would not believe us the next time we try to pass a bond. The PAC was the crowning jewel and it seems like sports gets priority. She likes the idea of an amphitheater.

Community member Allen Lujan agrees that everybody would like to see the PAC since it was promised a long time ago. However, he has concerns about the facilities at Jenny Lind Elementary and believes that is where the district's priorities should be.

Parent Denise Gustafson likes the idea of seeing something different for a theatre that would be a lower cost project.

There was discussion about Deferred Maintenance from the state (lack of \$), which is money school districts use for maintenance of facilities.

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**Bond Options and Plans - Continued**

The governing board directed Superintendent Campbell to look into options for building a Performing Arts Center-type facility or amphitheater with the lower budget.

**BREAK 12:15-12:35 p.m.**

**BUSINESS**

**a. Resolution 2012/13-16, Supporting Modification to Safe Routes to School**

The Board adopted Resolution 2012/13-16, Supporting Modification to the Safe Routes to School Project to eliminate the sidewalk on Highway 26 and place it at an easement along Driver Road, connecting to the Good Samaritan Church on Baldwin Drive.

**MSC 3-0 (Garamendi and McDaniel absent) to approve Resolution 2012/13-16,  
Supporting Modification to Safe Routes to School**

**Budget Update, Status and Direction**

Mr. Campbell said the Second Interim Report would be presented at the March 19, 2012 Board meeting. We will know more when the State approves a budget in June or July. He talked about the 2023 Model. Right now Proposition 98 is unfunded. We are hoping for a certain number of retirements so we can avoid teacher layoffs this year. The closure of Jenny Lind Alternative High School will be on the agenda for March 12.

Fiscal Director Titia Ashby explained the Education Protection Act and the new accounting resource code the state has created so the public can see how we expensed these dollars.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

**Zerrall McDaniel**

Mrs. McDaniel said she is very excited about the parent/volunteer special board meeting on March 5. The board holds a special meeting every year for them. This is a good time for everyone to share their ideas and a good networking opportunity.

**Gregory Gustafson**

Mr. Gustafson thanked everyone for being here on a Saturday. Everyone wants to see the district move forward with the PAC.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

**Karan Bowsher**

Mr. Bowsher visited Lindsay Unified School District in Visalia. It is one of the Obama “Race to the Top” \$10 million grant schools. They are doing interesting things down there based on individual student learning. Teachers facilitate for the most part instead of “teach.” The kids were teaching each other and everyone was engaged. Teachers Kathy Risso, Randall Youngblood, and Board Member Evan Garamendi also traveled with Mrs. Bowsher to the school. It was exciting to see so many new concepts using Notebooks and a partnership with Verizon for the internet access.

**22. Next Meeting/Adjournment**

There will be a special Parent/Volunteer recognition Board meeting on Tuesday, March 5, at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office Board room.

The next regular meeting of the CUSD Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2013. Closed Session begins at 4:00 p.m. Open Session begins at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office Board Room.

**23. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The Board went back into closed session until 2:10 p.m.

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Mark Campbell, Superintendent  
By Shirley Bell, Administrative Assistant