

Calaveras Unified School District
P.O. Box 788, San Andreas, CA 95249

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 9, 2014

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Karan Bowsher Kelly Smith
Zerrall McDaniel Gregory Gustafson
Sherri Reusche

NOTE: You may listen to an audio recording of this meeting available at www.calaveras.k12.ca.us. Go to the "School Board Info" page.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Campbell at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Superintendent Campbell led the pledge of allegiance and took roll call. All Board members were present.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The December 9, 2014 agenda was approved.

Motion: Bowsher Second: Reusche Vote: 5-0

4. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Campbell complimented our music teachers for the phenomenal work they do and all the great winter programs we have during this season. He welcomed Kelly Smith to the Board for her first meeting.

He introduced and welcomed Kassandra Booth, who is on tonight's Consent Agenda to be approved as our new Director of Fiscal Services. Ms. Booth has a BA and MA in Business comes to us from Clovis Unified, where she has worked for the past 8 years, working her way from Senior Accountant to Financial Analyst.

This coming weekend is the CSBA (California School Board Association) statewide conference. Zerrall McDaniel, as a CSAB Delegate, and Sherri Reusche as a member of CSBA's Board of Directors, will be attending representing CUSD. CSBA pays for their conference because of their official status with CSBA. He thanked them for their huge time commitment in working with CSBA.

Any individual who requires disability-related accommodations, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the board meeting, should contact the Superintendent in writing. (Gov. code 54953.2, 54954.1) Members of the Public may request an item be placed on the agenda. The agenda request form is available on the CUSD website, www.calaveras.k12.ca.us, under forms, public. Agenda requests must be received at the District Office no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, one week before the Board meeting. Forms can also be requested by calling (209) 754-2300.

All Board meetings are tape recorded and the audio is posted on the district's website.

Superintendent's Comments – Continued

For many years the entire Board attended because it is a phenomenal professional development opportunity. But due to our financial conditions, we have only sent the entire board once during his 6 years as Superintendent, which was the first year Mr. Gustafson joined the Board in 2012.. It proved to be very beneficial. Zerrall and Sherri will represent us and we will do a better job of coming back and presenting information to you afterward. Also, Zerrall, Kevin Hesser and Mr. Campbell along with 3 other districts will be giving a presentation at the conference on CHASSIS (Creating Healthy and Sustainable Systems in School), nutrition and wellness policies.

5. **Celebrations, Recognition and Announcements** – No items presented

6. **Correspondence** – No item presented

7. **Adoption, Resolution No. 2014/15-14, Accepting Canvass and Certified Statement of Results of the Governing Board Election Held in Calaveras County of November 4, 2014 and Consolidated with the General Election**

Section 15400 of the Elections Code requires the Governing Board to declare the results of each election under its jurisdiction. Resolution 2014/15-14 was presented for Board approval.

Motion: McDaniel Second: Gustafson Vote: 5-0

8. **Oath of Office**

Newly elected Board member Kelly Smith and re-elected Board members Karan Bowsher and Zerrall McDaniel were given the Oath of Office for their next four-year terms, expiring November 2018.

9. **Board Organization**

a) Election of President of the Board

Board member Gustafson shared 2 different scenarios showing the rotation of officers. He said his area has not been represented for 5 years and it will be another 3 years before it will be represented, and he has been put out of rotation. Last year would have been his year if it were a proper 5 year rotation. He thinks we should stick to the rotation.

Board member Zerrall McDaniel nominated Sherri Reusche for Board President. Superintendent Campbell asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he called for a vote for Sherri Reusche as Board President.

Vote: 4-1 (Gustafson, Nay)

b) Election of Clerk of the Board

Board President Reusche called for an election of Clerk of the Board.

Board Organization – Continued

Karan Bowsher nominated Zerrall McDaniel for Clerk of the Board and Kelly Smith nominated Greg Gustafson for Clerk of the Board.

President Reusche called for the vote for Zerrall McDaniel as Board Clerk:

Vote: 3-2 (Bowsher, McDaniel, Reusche, Yay; Gustafson, Smith, Nay)

President Reusche called for the vote for Greg Gustafson as Board Clerk:

Vote: 2-3 (Gustafson, Smith, yay; Bowsher, McDaniel, Reusche, Nay)

President Reusche announced Zerrall McDaniel will serve as Clerk of the Board.

c) Superintendent Campbell was appointment of Secretary to the Board.

d) Appointment of Board Representatives were as follows:

1. CSEA Round Table: Greg Gustafson and Kelly Smith
2. CUEA Round Table: Karan Bowsher and Zerrall McDaniel
2. Calaveras County Special Ed Administrative Council Board Representative: Karan Bowsher and Kelly Smith
3. Policy Review Committee Board Representative: Sherri Reusche and Zerrall McDaniel
4. CHS/TMS Music Booster Board Representative: Zerrall McDaniel
5. Athletic Booster Board Representative: Greg Gustafson

e) **Adoption of Board Meeting Calendar - July 2015-June 2016**

Motion: McDaniel Second: Bowsher Vote: 5-0

f) **Adoption of 2015 Master Board District Activities Calendar**

Motion: Gustafson Second: McDaniel Vote: 5-0

11. California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Nomination

Nominations to serve on the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly representing Region 8 for a two-year term beginning April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2017 will be accepted. Board President Sherri Reusche nominated Zerrall McDaniel and asked for any other nominations form the floor and heard no others.

Motion: Reusche Second: Bowsher Vote: 4-1 (Gustafson, nay)

Zerrall McDaniel is nominated to serve as CSBA Delegated for Region 8. Board President Reusche overseas 15 CSBA Delegates and commended Zerrall McDaniel on her dedicated as Delegate for CSBA's Region 8.

7. Public Comments

At this time, visitors may comment on items not appearing on the agenda. This is not the time for discussion or deliberation nor can action be taken by the Trustees or Superintendent unless the matter is placed on a subsequent agenda. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on each closed agenda item (BB 9323). The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. If visitors wish to address issues listed on the agenda, they may do so at the time the item is addressed by the Board. Conduct of Hearing Session/Public Forum will be as follows, per Calaveras Unified School District Board Bylaw #9322.

Calaveras High School (CHS) Student Raymond Hill addressed the Board citing California Education Code stating public schools must provide school library services for the students and the teachers of the district by establishing and maintain school libraries or by contractual arrangements with another agency. Their school library is the heart and soul of what makes a school a fascinating and extraordinary place to learn. It has come to his attention there is a possibility CUSD Media Specialists may be laid off and the libraries will be run by volunteers or teachers. Their librarian is just as important as the library itself. To some students the library is a second home and the librarians a second ear. If the Board decides to make this a definitive thing, the repercussions could be worse than with how the students reacted to sports. It would be a travesty to lay off a person who has done an absolutely wonderful job. He reiterated the Education Code.

CHS student Teresa Petric continued what her colleague (Raymond Hill) said, she restated the Education Code regarding public schools' requirement to provide library services. Would volunteers or contracted teacher be used to replace Media Specialists in the event of a layoff? She spoke about the cost of using volunteers, getting background checks, etc. Media Specialists have access to highly confidential information such as passwords, staff and student information. Volunteers should not be put in a position to have access to data requiring a DOJ clearance. She understands the difficult situation the School Board is in but would like them to take into consideration the possibility of what could happen.

CHS Principal Mike Merrill addressed the Board. The Media Specialist position is critical at CHS. One of the things that are critical is the book repository. All of their textbooks are housed in the library and they are barcoded so every student who has to check out a book, as per Williams Act, may do so. Teachers have a class set of books and students have a set of books that go home with them. Every one of those books has to be cataloged and followed each year – over 7,750 books – just textbooks. They have over 10,000 volumes of other books in the library. A piece of the technology has been added to the Media Specialists job over the years (270+ Chromebooks, 40 computers in the library, 3 computer labs on campus). The library is open before, during and after school. They also count on Cyndie to take attendance on a daily basis for every period. It is a very critical position for nearly 1,000 students on campus.

Kyle Harvey, CSEA Labor Representative, addressed the Board. He welcomed the new Board member. CSEA will not allow volunteers to run our libraries. They will not allow certificated or management to do the work. We will have to figure out how to do it. They will take us to impasse, to fact finding – whatever it takes to preserve those jobs for CSEA bargaining unit members. The district has taken too much from them. They are still 20% of the budget or less and we are proposing 40% of the cuts on their backs. That's not fair and not right.

Public Comments - Continued

Valley Springs Elementary teacher Autumn Hesser teaching TK/K, informed the Board she has been teaching Kindergarten for almost 15 years and when she first began teaching she had 20 students in her classroom. She knows we are looking at expanding class sizes and wants to advocate strongly to keep class sizes small in K-3. They provide the fundamental building blocks for the rest of these students' learning. It would be mind-boggling to have 30-35 Kindergarteners in a classroom and it's not fair to the children. Safety concerns should also be considered and they also do not have instructional aides in their classrooms. It is very essential to make early childhood education a priority because if they don't get their skills in K-3, they will spend the rest of their educational struggling. She implored the Board to keep class sizes small.

High School English teacher Kraig Lambert addressed the Board. CHS academically depends on the library. It's the academic heart of the school. The English Department depends on the library as a place for students to go study and support their program. It would be defeat not to have a librarian or a library. It symbolizes a place of learning and a place where the students can chose what they get to read. The students get extra help from the library. He begs the Board to look at the budget and find a way for every student to learn in the most optimal environment. Each individual student's education needs to remain the focus. He wants the Board to see the library as vital and central to that.

Lorraine Angel, High School Chemistry teacher and CUEA President, addressed the Board, now that they have made a decision about the Phase II reductions. She wants to know what happened to the district's commitment to K-3 class sizes? What happened to the equity for all students at CUSD? She realizes demographics are changing. In the last 10 years enrollment has declined by 14%, but CUSD has seen fit to lay off 23% of its teachers. We are down 555 students and 43 teachers. Since 2004 CUSD is down 654 students (as of July 2015) and that should be 22 teachers not 60. Class size affects students' learning conditions or their working conditions. The district says it is planning to staff 30:1 next year. At best most teachers have classes in the high 20's. Some classes are already over 30. Since the district calculates class size on site averages, everybody is below 30:1 by their calculations. There's an elementary class that grows to as many as 38 in the afternoon because students who do not appear on the teacher's roll are mainstreamed in the afternoon. This is because of the learning center model for special education. These large class sizes come with no instructional aides unless you happen to be lucky enough to have a special education student who has a one-on-one aide who is supposed to be working with just that one student but will spend time helping the teacher. The students who are behind by the end of 3rd grade will continue to fall behind. If a student is not reading at their grade level by the end of 3rd grade they will be 4 times less likely to graduate from high school and 6 times less likely for students from low income families. Referring to a Northwestern University study, high school dropouts are 63 times more likely to be incarcerated than college grads. Many CUSD students will not be reading at their grade level by 3rd grade if class sizes continue to grow out of control. Five years ago teachers were laid off because there was no money, creating chaos in elementary schools. Class sizes were so big and the ending balance was so large – over \$5 million again – teachers were hired back. Students were shuffled into new classes creating chaos in learning but at least the class sizes were down. Again the district sought to solve its fiscal problems on the backs of employees. We are lucky to have the teachers we have here who spend their own money on classroom supplies and work endless hours without compensation and painting and repairing desks. Again the district is trying to solve its fiscal problems on the backs of employees. Teachers

Public Comments - Continued

watched their take home pay being reduced year after year with the skyrocketing cost of insurance. Raises for teachers over the last 7 years have been less than 1% per year. Teachers still spend their time and money to make sure their students have what they need on a day-to-day basis. CUSD cannot afford to lose any more support staff, Media Specialists, Custodians and Maintenance. We just heard from students about how important it is to have Media Specialists and how it is Ed Code to provide these services. If we lose the Media Specialist at Valley Springs Elementary, we will lose the library because we have an agreement with the county. We are a school district and, yes, you spend 80% for salaries in a school district. She asked the board to find a way to protect those K-3 students from large class sizes. She doesn't want those students coming into her classroom at the high school who have been impacted by huge class sizes in K-3. It's important those students get the foundation of education they need to be successful in life. She's very concerned about the number of special education students in our schools. They have 16% at the high school they need to serve in a proper and respectful manner. She is also concerned about maintenance in their classrooms. They (the teachers) are fixing things and we can't afford to lose any of our support staff. It's been said before that we can't fund this district on hope. She is tired of students in this district being collateral damage to the fiscal problems that the school board and school district have created for themselves.

Jade Long, a teacher at Valley Springs Elementary, spoke to the board as a parent, and has a Kindergartener at Valley Springs Elementary. She spends a lot of time in his classroom and finds it unfair to have such a large class. It's unfair to the students and the teachers. She is asking the Board to consider keeping class sizes down in K-3.

12. Action on Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Board member McDaniel and Gustafson would like to pull the minutes of the November 18 meeting, as they believe their comments incorrectly stated. Superintendent Campbell said he would listen to the tape and the minutes will be brought back to the January 20, 2015 meeting.

13. CONSENT AGENDA:

Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request that an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted on separately.

Motion: Bowsher Second: McDaniel Vote: 5-0

- a) **Approval of Minutes**
Meeting minutes of November 15, 2014 Study Session
- b) **Routine Personnel Report , December 9, 2014**
- c) **Approval, Vendor Warrant Listings**
The Vendor Warrant Listing was presented for approval.
- d) **Approval of Donations**

Consent Agenda – Continued

e) **Approval of Bond Disbursements** – No item presented

f) **Report of Grant Awards** – No item presented

g) **Agreement for Special Contract Services**

1. California Common Core State Standards Workshops

It is requested the Board approve an MOU with the San Joaquin County Office of Education to provide professional development on California's Common Core State Standards (CSSS) for English Language Arts for approximately 70 teachers. These workshops will be held on January 20, March 30 and May 13, 2015. The cost is \$10,500 and is funded by AB86.

h) **Overnight Events**

1. Algalita POPS Youth Summit

4 Calaveras High School students have been selected to attend the Algalita POPS Youth Summit (Plastic Ocean Pollution Solutions) in Dana Point, CA. The event is February 27 to March 1, 2015. Lodging and meals are provided. Teacher Sarah Swift will be the chaperone and driver.

14. PERSONNEL

a) **Certificated Report**

Teacher Renetta Hale thanked for board for attending the CTA dinner last night in Sacramento. A CTA attorney spoke about the Brown Act. Our Board members were able to meet Board members from other districts. Their next site rep meeting is tomorrow. The next Round Table is December 17.

b) **Classified Report**

CSEA Chapter 405 President Terri Henderson reported they have Round Table on December 11 at 3:30 and they also have their Chapter meeting Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Friday morning they will be meeting with the District for negotiations (Note: The Round Table and Negotiations were canceled by CUEA due to the storm.) They have a Tentative Agreement they will be voting for at their Chapter meeting. She agrees with the student who came out to speak on behalf of our Media Specialists because all of the Classified employees are very important to this district and since 2005 they have been cut.-

c) **All Personnel** - No Item Presented

d) **Classified Personnel** – No Item Presented

e) **Certificated Personnel** - No Item Presented

f) **Management/Confidential/Supervisory** - No Item Presented

15. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION - No item presented

16. BUSINESS

a) **Bond Disbursements for the Performing Arts Facility – Performing Arts Center**

No item presented

b) **Approval of the First Period Interim Report, Criteria and Standards as of October 31, 2014**

The First Interim Report, as of October 31, 2014, was presented. It is required the Board approve the report and certify the District can meet its financial obligations for the remaining 2014/15 fiscal year and subsequent two years.

Fiscal Advisor Douglas Crancer gave a report of the district’s first interim report and answered questions from the Board and audience. The report will be posted on the district’s webpage.

The Board approved the report.

Motion: Bowsher Second: McDaniel Vote: 5-0

17. POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

First Reading – No item presented

Second Reading – No item presented

18. Calendar of Events

| DATE | EVENT |
|--|---|
| December 13 | 3rd Annual Holiday Music Fundraiser, Mokelumne Hill Town Hall 4:00-7:00 p.m. |
| December 11 December 16 December 17 December 18 January 22 | CUSD Winter Concerts West Point Elementary – Multi-Purpose Room – 6:30 p.m. Toyon Middle School Band Concert – Multi-Purpose Room 6:30 p.m. Rail Road Flat Elementary – Multi-Purpose Room – 6:00 p.m. Mokelumne Hill Elementary – Multi-Purpose Room – 6:30 p.m. Jenny Lind Elementary – Multi-Purpose Room – 6:30 p.m. The Calaveras High School Band is participating in the Mountain Ranch Christmas parade instead of having a concert. The Mountain Ranch parade is at 2 p.m. on December 13.) |
| December 22, 2014 to January 9, 2015 | Winter Break – No School |

19. Future Agenda Items

20. Comments from Board Members

Karan Bowsher

Mrs. Bowsher wished everyone a Merry Christmas. It's been a very difficult year. She asked everyone to focus on what's really important during these holidays – which are your family.

Gregory Gustafson

Mr. Gustafson wished everyone a good holiday and break. He mentioned he was wearing his duck tie in support of the University of Oregon, where he daughter attends and participates in the band. She will be coming to CHS to talk to students about how they can move on with band to participate in university bands. He is proud of how our music program develops students, which was why it is so important to keep the music and sports programs going.

Zerrall McDaniel

Mrs. McDaniel welcomed new Board member Kelly Smith to the Board and our new Fiscal Director, Cassandra Booth, to CUSD. She also gave her appreciation to Douglas Crancer and Terri Ryland for their help serving as fiscal advisors. The "Save Calaveras" event on Saturday was a success. She believes they raised about \$5,000. Next Saturday there is another event at the Moke Hill Town Hall and she hopes many people can go to support it. She thanked Lorraine Angela and Renetta Hale for inviting them to the CTA dinner. Kevin Hesser, Mark Campbell and she will be giving at presentation at the CSBA Annual Conference on CHASSIS (Creating Healthy and Sustainable Systems in Schools).

Kelly Smith

Ms. Smith said she is really happy to be here and making whatever contributions she can. She met a lot of really wonderful people when she was out campaigning. She is looking forward to working with everyone. She wished everyone a wonderful holiday.

Sherri Reusche

Ms. Reusche was thankful for the invitation to the CTA dinner. She thanked Ms. Angel for her comments and let her know they were heard. The two CHS students who spoke were very eloquent and she thanked them for their comments. She wished everyone a nice holiday.

21. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the CUSD Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2015. This meeting will be held at the District Administrative Offices, in the Board Room. Closed Session begins at 4:30 p.m. and Open Session begins at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Mark Campbell, Superintendent
By Shirley Bell