

Calaveras Unified School District  
P.O. Box 788, San Andreas, CA 95249  
**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**April 5, 2016 – Volunteer Recognition Meeting**

The meeting of the Calaveras Unified School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the District Office, Board Room.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**                   Karan Bowsher                   Kelly Smith  
  Zerrall McDaniel  
  Sherri Reusche

**ABSENT:**                               Gregory Gustafson

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Board President Zerrall McDaniel.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

President McDaniel led the Salute to the flag.

**3. Roll Call**

Superintendent Campbell took roll. Present were Karan Bowsher, Kelly Smith, Zerrall McDaniel and Sherri Reusche. Board member Gregory Gustafson was absent.

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda for the April 5, 2016 was approved.

**Motion: Bowsher      Second: Reusche      Vote: 4-0 (Gustafson absent)**

**5. Announcement of Closed Session Items**

There was no closed session.

**6. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**7. Superintendent Comments**

Superintendent Campbell thanked everyone for coming to the special meeting of the CUSD Board of Trustees honoring our parent volunteers. We could not do all the things we do for our students without the help of our volunteers. He is grateful for their work and hopes they will continue to cultivate what they do to help kids. Their efforts do not go unnoticed, and he expressed his appreciate on behalf of the board, administrators and staff.

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](http://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.

**8. Board Member Comments (Continued on Page 5)**

**Zerrall McDaniel**

Board President McDaniel wanted to remind everyone to let the District Office know if you have items to be shared on the calendar of events. She also made a Parent Club Roster and had copies available for those who were interested sitting on the back table.

She called upon a representative from CHS, Beth Ramsdell.

**9. Celebrations, Recognition of CUSD Parent Volunteers**

**Calaveras High School**

Parent volunteer and teacher at CHS, Beth Ramsdell, spoke on behalf of Gina Sullivan for the Calaveras Athletic Boosters. Gina wished to thank everyone who supports CAB by purchasing Tri-trip and baked potatoes at the football games. They use the money to support athletics by replacing or purchasing athletic equipment and uniforms. With the loss of the Redskins name, it will be very expensive to begin replacing all the uniforms. They assist with continuing education classes for coaches, including first aide classes. They support the continuance of offering sports at CHS.

Ms. Ramsdell gave a report on the CHS Parent Club, whose largest fundraiser is the fireworks booth at The Terrace in Valley Springs. They use those funds for teacher and bus driver appreciation luncheons. They raised funds for new sound equipment at the football field and are continuing to add new equipment, including wireless microphones. They try to provide \$500 for teacher's wish lists.

She then gave a report on the Band Boosters, who did a lot of fundraisers for victims of the Butte fire. They also worked really hard on fundraisers to earn \$20,000 for the Disneyland trip, where they were invited back to attend the Forum Judges Invitation Festival because CHS earned a "gold" rating last year. They also use their fundraised money to pay for musical equipment and repairs, help Toyon Middle School's program and pay for the music and entry fees for competitions.

CHS Principal Mike Merrill said he is very thankful for everything our parents do. CHS has many groups: FFA, athletics, drama, choir, band, as well as advisory groups for CTE programs.

Sara Rose gave a presentation on FFA at CHS. They provide 4 \$1,000 scholarships to almost any senior who was involved in FFA. They spend about \$2,000 to help get kids to conventions during the school year (there are 3 or 4 a year). Their 2 main fundraisers are the dinner in November, which raised \$6,000 this year, and the pig raffle in May.

Ms. Rose also provided information on Grad Night. This year they have \$19,000 budget. The Bingo was a large profit-maker. They have a large array of entertainment during the evening (hypnotist, tri-cycle races, bounce house, rock wall, mechanical bull, and more). They also spend \$4,000 on senior gifts for each senior who attends. They give away items students can use for college/dorm life. It is a safe option and promotes a sober graduation night. They are in need of volunteers and can assign people to shifts. Interested individuals should contact Gina Sullivan at the CHS.

**Celebrations, Recognition of CUSD Parent Volunteers – Continued**

**Trap Shooters Organization (serving Grades 4-12)**

Board President McDaniel also spoke about the Gold Country Trap Shooters. Beth Ramsdell has children who participate and spoke about the organization. They teach them gun safety and participate in trap shooting, including competitions in Las Vegas. They emphasize good sportsmanship, and participants must maintain a satisfactory GPA and good behavior at school. They do not promote violence in any way.

**Gold Strike High School**

Board President McDaniel spoke about Gold Strike High School and the programs they have there, including the culinary program.

**Calaveras Educational Foundation**

Patty Poole, President of the Calaveras Education Foundation Gala, said they raised \$14,000 this year at the Gala. They provide mini grants of \$500 to teachers and students for classroom projects. They give a minimum of \$1,500 to Grad Night and provide scholarships to graduating seniors. To date, they have given away \$250,000.

**Mokelumne Hill Elementary School**

Michelle Besmer, Principal of Mokelumne Hill Elementary, introduced Courtney McDermed, who is their Parent Club President. Ms. McDermed said their Walk-a-Thon is the largest fundraiser and was rescheduled due to the Butte Fire. They used the funds raised to help families who were victims of the fire. They had an E-waste Drive and Yard Sale, but made more money on the E-waste drive, so will probably not do the yard sale again. They provide \$200 to teachers. They have a craft fair where the kids make gifts to give to their families. They donate a basket to the Gala, donate for the end-of-year field trip, and help fund the music education for K-3. They also do a teacher appreciation luncheon in May.

**Jenny Lind Elementary School**

Kristie Starkovich, Principal of Jenny Lind Elementary, introduced Christina Newman, President of their Parent Club. Ms. Newman said they do a Walk-A-Thon at the beginning of the year as well. They host Trunk or Treat, Breakfast for Santa, do fundraisers for music, art, choir and morning sing. They help fund the garden and school beautification. There are 3 consistent money makers: Box Tops (she explained in detail how this program works), Scholastic Book Fairs (3 a year), and the wooden roses, which they sell for \$1 each. They are always looking for more volunteers.

**Toyon Middle School**

Amy Hasselwander, Principal of Toyon Middle School, thanked their volunteers and spoke on behalf of the Parent Teacher Club. They are now a non-profit and they are always in need of volunteers since the kids are only there for 2 years, it's hard to find volunteers. They are having a meeting Thursday at 5:30 p.m., and will be sending an "all call" to parents to notify them. At the meeting they will be nominating PTC officers. She will be making dinner for them that night, so please come to the meeting. The PTC is heavily involved in the "Warrior Welcome." They chaperone and help organize school dances, manning the snack bar, throughout the year. They also have a "Night Under the Stars" movie/date night for parents and child care is available in the multi-purpose room. They have a staff appreciation lunch in May and an 8<sup>th</sup> grade dinner dance,

**Celebrations, Recognition of CUSD Parent Volunteers – Continued**

“Forever Redskins.” The PTC purchases window blinds this year for school safety. Ms. Hasselwander also thanked her Site Council volunteers who are involved in the instructional plan and the parents who participate on the LCAP Committee. PTC also provide items from teachers’ wish lists. One of the goals is to provide some type of sun shade for the outside lunch quad.

**San Andreas Elementary School**

Ashley Herd, President of the San Andreas Elementary Parent Club, said they start the year off with a Jog-A-Thon, which they postponed for the Butte fire. Some of their students lost homes. They do a Santa’s Secret Workshop. Each year right after Christmas one of their volunteers goes out and buys items which have been deeply discounted in after Christmas sales for next year’s workshop. They sell items at the workshop for 25 cent to \$8. The help fund music for PK-4<sup>th</sup> grade. They promote “Read Across America.” They help to fund Science Camp. They have Bingo and bake sales. They do a teacher appreciation week, and the teachers do a volunteer appreciation luncheon. They do an egg drop at the end of the year. They donate a basket to the Gala. They have a Workout Wednesday where the older kids work with the younger ones. They have yearbooks/sales. They also have a roll away cart/student store for a reward system.

**Valley Springs Elementary School**

Fara Roberts, representing Valley Springs Elementary’s Parent Club, said they have all new Board members this year. They do a Bull Dog Trek at the beginning of the year, which earned \$10,000. They help fund music with Mr. Roberson and Ms. Lyn’s art clay program. They help pay for Science Camp. This year the Valley Springs Business Association gave them \$5,000. They do a chili cook off. They help fund the after school art and garden programs.

**West Point Elementary School/Rail Road Flat Elementary School**

Angela Howard, Principal of West Point and Rail Road Flat Elementary Schools, thanked their parent volunteers and said Tatum Lowry is listed on the roster as being from Rail Road Flat, when it should read that she is from West Point Elementary. She introduced Lynn Brown, President the West Point Parent Teacher Club. Ms. Brown said they have a Walk-a-Thon at the beginning of the year and used a lot of those funds to donate to Butte Fire victims. They fund raise with Bingo and a Santa’s Workshop. They have an Earth Day event coming up and have a new green house. There is a group of citizens who play Pedro (a card game) who fund West Point’s Science Camp.

**Rail Road Flat Elementary School**

Melissa Earl, President of Rail Road Flat’s Parent Club, said they a Santa’s Gift Shop, Walk-a-Thon, a raffle for half a hog, a Book Fair (each child is given a book a couple of times a year). They do a movie night and also earn money with Box Tops.

**Friends of Rail Road Flat**

Autumn Andahl, President of the Friends of Rail Road Flat, spoke about the Enrichment Program and many of the activities they provide during and after school such as art, gardening, science, computer coding, and guitar to name a few. They just purchased a 3-D printer for computer coding. They fund raise and do grant writing. Their largest fundraiser is Tiger Fest. This year the theme is Gypsy Mania. It will feature gypsy violinists Kim Angelis and Josef Gault. Doors open at 5

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p.m. Dinner is at 6 p.m. at the Rail Road Flat Community Center. They also fund the parent co-op Preschool 2 days a week on campus. They do a winter concert where MHE, WPE and RRF students

### **Celebrations, Recognition of CUSD Parent Volunteers – Continued**

#### **Friends of Rail Road Flat - Continued**

and local musicians perform. They host a monthly farm-to-fork community dinner, in which they try to incorporate something from their school's garden. This month they will host this on April 28, featuring pasta primavera. They have been busy with the Butte Fire Recovery. They had their donations on a traveling truck and are now transitioning to a storage center. This year they will have a T-Ball Team in Rail Road Flat. There are 12 team members. They want to try to provide an aide in the TK-K class for Mrs. Terri's class.

#### **Wellness Committee**

Board President McDaniel also mentioned the Wellness Committee, who work community volunteers to promote wellness in our schools with nutrition, gardens, physical activity and education. She said they welcome new volunteers as well.

#### **Board President Closing Remarks**

Board President McDaniel said we have an incredibly strong district with a lot to offer. We have dedicated administrators and our teachers and staff are incredible – everyone cares about our students. We are proud to honor our parent clubs and volunteers here at CUSD.

She urged everyone to stick around, exchange emails and network after the meeting, while enjoying the refreshments.

### **Board Member Comments – Continued from Page 2**

#### **Sherri Reusche**

Ms. Reusche reminded everyone to inform the district office about their events so they can be placed on the Calendar of Events.

#### **Karan Bowsher**

This fall her church and others are working on a project for victims of the Butte Fire. They will help homes that need landscaping and provide some "TLC" to the Mountain Ranch Community Hall. If you are interested in donating your help to work, please let her know, and, if acceptable, she will put something in the district email about it. This tragedy will not be over any time soon for the families who lost so much. She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and said perhaps some of the volunteers sitting in the audience today will find themselves serving on the CUSD Board of Trustees in the future.

#### **Kelly Smith**

Ms. Smith said she grew up in Mokelumne Hill. We should consider revisiting what they did when she was a kid. One of the big events was the Halloween event at the Moke Hill Town Hall. There was a cake walk, something you spun, etc. Maybe all PTC groups can get together and take it over – make it one Halloween event.

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Ms. Reusche said that's one of the reasons JLE came up with Trunk or Treat – keep kids off the streets.

**10. Next Meeting/Adjournment**

The next regular meeting of the CUSD Board is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2015. This meeting will be held at CUSD Administrative Offices, Board Room. Closed Session begins at 5:00 p.m. and Open Session begins at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

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Mark Campbell, Superintendent  
By Shirley Bell