

**Visalia Unified School District
Board of Education
MINUTES**

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The March 27, 2007 Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Donna Martin in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Office Complex, 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia. A quorum of the Board was present.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Leave</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Rodney Elder	5:30	8:35	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	8:35	
Larry Jones	5:30	8:35	
Michael Lane	5:30	8:35	
Donna Martin	5:30	8:35	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	8:35	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	8:35	
 Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	 5:30	 8:35	

Staff Members

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
 Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Educational Services
 Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
 Pam Ryan, Executive Assistant, Superintendent's Office
 Samuel Bermudez, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

President Martin then identified the closed session topics listed below and called for public comment on the closed session items. There was none. The Board adjourned to closed session.

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Cindi Costa
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - 1. CSEA
- 2.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT/REASSIGNMENT/APPOINTMENT
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
 - 1. Property: Riggin Street/Akers Avenue
APN: 077-100-087
 - 2. Agency negotiator: Robert Gröeber
 - 3. Negotiating parties: VUSD/CRS Farming
 - 4. Under negotiation: Potential Trade

**EARLY BIRD
SESSION**

The Early Bird Session opened at 6:30 p.m.

**ALTERNATIVE
GOVERNANCE
SPRING REPORT**

Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Educational Services, and Jim Sullivan, Coordinator of State and Federal Projects, presented the mid-year progress report on the activities of the Alternative Governance (AG) Board. (Encl. No. 1) The AG Board members include: Pansy Ceballos, Dean Crechriou, Carlyn Lambert, Rob

Stephenson, Jim Sullivan, Judy Walston (AG Board Liaison) and Kathy Howerton (VUTA Liaison). Mrs. Lambert reviewed the responsibilities of the AG Board including advising, planning, and monitoring the Program Improvement (PI) activities of schools in PI Phase 3-5 as prescribed by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations. Currently the AG Board functions in an advisory capacity for the following schools: Divisadero and Green Acres Middle Schools, Crowley, Fairview, Goshen, Highland, Houston, Ivanhoe, Union and Washington Elementary Schools. Thirty-three site visits (three per site) have taken place.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed each of the State's essential components for an effective standards based program:

- Instructional Program Base/Intervention
- Instructional Time
- Instructional Leadership Training
- Student Achievement Monitoring System
- Teacher Training Literacy/Math
- Coaching: In-Classroom Support
- Focused Collaboration
- Curriculum Mapping

Board member Stephenson summarized his observations as an AG Board member:

- ❖ Multiple visits have offered a perspective of progress being made
- ❖ Sharing of information and instructional strategies among different schools
- ❖ Clear indication of standards to be addressed daily in classrooms with student understanding
- ❖ Student work that provides exemplars of efficiency levels
- ❖ Classrooms that demonstrate the increased rigor of student learning
- ❖ Teaching that engages students with focused curriculum
- ❖ Teachers that are collaborating on either subject area or grade level curriculum sharing lessons and planning ideas
- ❖ Effective use of small groups for learning and daily instructional time maximized for teaching
- ❖ Very good use of visual and models for teaching and learning
- ❖ School environments where one senses the seriousness of commitment to academic excellence
- ❖ Involvement of parents in the educational process
- ❖ Broad array of intervention opportunities available to assistant students so that they can be as successful as possible through their educational experience
- ❖ "Let the Success Continue"

There was no public comment.

REGULAR SESSION The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. President Martin announced that no action was taken in closed session. Rob Stephenson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION/**

**PROCLAMATIONS/
ACTION**

ACCEPTANCE OF
DONATED COPIERS
FROM CLINE'S
BUSINESS
EQUIPMENT, INC.
Motion No. 150

Barbara James from the Purchasing Department acknowledged Cline's Business Equipment, Inc. for donating two Minolta copiers to Green Acres Middle School. (Encl. No. 2) The units would be utilized by teaching and office staff to meet the needs of site students. JD from Cline's Business Equipment stated that his company has had a relationship with the district for over 26 years. They are also donating 1,000 square feet of warehouse space to the district.

Jim Qualls moved to accept this donation and Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE
PARTNERS FOR
YOUTH VISION
Motion No. 151

Michael Lane introduced Gail Johnson and Anne Bragg with Partners for Youth Vision. He read the Resolution Recognizing the Partners for Youth Vision. (Encl. No. 3) The VUSD Board of Education commends the Partners for Youth Vision for providing a bridge of support for youth moving to life beyond the street through the Youth Vision Art Program which provides youth creative and constructive ways to express themselves.

Anne Bragg extended an invitation to attend their fundraiser "Empty Bowls" on April 26 at the Visalia Country Club, an awareness event for the homeless and hungry.

Michael Lane moved to approve the Resolution. Rob Stephenson seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION
SUPPORTING
SCHOOL LIBRARY
MEDIA MONTH
Motion No. 152

Clerk Lane read the Proclamation Supporting School Library Media Month to increase public awareness of the significant contributions made by school library media center staff through school library media center programs to further academic achievement and life long learning of our students. (Encl. No. 4)

Juan Guerrero moved to approve the Proclamation. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MONTH – APRIL
2007
Motion No. 153

Superintendent Carrizosa acknowledged that Public Schools Month has been sponsored and promoted by the Free and Accepted Masons of California since 1920. (Encl. No. 5) The purpose of Public Schools Month is to encourage communities and schools to set aside one week during the month as a special time for the discussion of public schools and to enlist the support of the general public to the cause of public education. The local Masons will be hosting a recognition celebration in April for teacher, administrator and classified employee of the year as they have done annually.

Rob Stephenson moved to acknowledge April as Public Schools Month. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/
PUBLIC INTEREST**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/
STATUS REPORTS/
ACTION**

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS/
SUPERINTEN-
DENT'S REPORT**

Samuel Bermudez, Student Representative to the Board from Golden West High School, gave a brief summary of the events that are taking place at each of the four comprehensive high schools.

The Board members' reports included the following:

- Read a Dr. Seuss book to Ivanhoe students
- Board representative on a committee for building an aquatic facility in Visalia. Report will be made at the Joint VUSD Board and City of Visalia quarterly meeting to be held on May 1
- Thanked fellow board members for their integrity and professionalism
- Attended a meeting developing parental education
- Visited Veva Blunt School
- Encouraged fellow board members to attend as many School Site Open Houses as possible

Superintendent Carrizosa reported on a multi-agency group including the Visalia Police Department, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, Tulare County Office of Education, City of Visalia and the school district that has been meeting as a Gang Taskforce to improve violence prevention in our community. After a needs assessment was conducted with community centers and grassroots organizations in the community that are working on gang prevention, it was determined that one of the highest priorities for improving gang prevention was to make the many community center, recreation and non-profit organizations available to the students. Students need a safe route to get there and back home after school, in the evening or on the weekends. The Task Force is working on providing the needed transportation for these students. The County Board of Supervisors and the City of Visalia have finalized the details for specialized buses that will be designated to run four and a half hours a day from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and all day on Saturday with routes to Goshen and Ivanhoe.

The centers would be used more frequently and safely if there was better enforcement of anti-gang activity at or near the centers themselves. The Visalia Police Department announced that during the summer, the ten Youth Services Officers (YSOs) from the middle and high schools will be support and service officers at the various youth centers in the community.

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT**

**LEARNING
UPDATE
REGARDING
NORTHWEST
ENROLLMENT
GROWTH**
Motion No. 154

Doug Bartsch, Area Administrator K-6 Schools, reported that enrollment continues to grow in the Oak Grove and Hurley attendance areas. (Encl. No. 6) The presentation informed the Board of the rate of growth and plans for providing sufficient staffing and classroom space for students during the 2007-08 school year. Plans will require four additional leased portable classrooms, three to five additional teachers, and possible additional costs for transportation.

2007-08 Objectives:

- Continue all current (06-07) Oak Grove students at Oak Grove
- Maintain Oak Grove enrollment as near to 1,000 students as possible
- Provide for stability in school site for all students – One move, either to Oak Grove or Leila/Ferguson site
- Keep siblings together
- Minimize busing
- Place students in 08-09 school as soon as possible
- Provide for parental input

Rob Stephenson moved to approve the Update Regarding the Northwest Enrollment Growth. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**CONNECTEDNESS
TO SCHOOL: NINTH
GRADE SUPPORT
PROGRAMS**
2007-08
Motion No. 155

Dr. Craig Wheaton, Area Administrator for 7-12 Schools, reported on a series of programs designed to support ninth grade students as they transition into high school. (Encl. No. 7) The ninth grade support programs include:

- Link Crew - Transition support to ensure positive first year in high school for all students
- Lunch Time Activity and Student Safety – All ninth grade students on campus for lunch in a safe environment
- Transitional Guidance Program – Transitional Learning Director – First 12 weeks/3 days per week. Target 100 “at-risk” nine graders
- Ninth Grade Academy – Intensive intervention – Support for 50 students most academically “at-risk”

Rodney Elder moved to accept the recommendations for the Ninth Grade Support Programs for 2007-08. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**QUALITY EDUCA-
TION INVESTMENT
ACT: PLANNING
UPDATE**
Motion No. 156

This is the third Board meeting that staff has presented information on the Quality Education Investment Act. Mrs. Lambert reviewed Senate Bill 1133 known as the Quality Education Investment Act of 2006 (QEIA) authorizing school districts to apply for funding for elementary, secondary, and charter schools. (Encl. No. 8) Funds are for use in performing various specific measures to improve academic instruction and pupil academic achievement. Schools ranked in decile 1 or 2 are eligible for the funding. Jim Sullivan and Mimi Bonds, Coordinators of State and Federal Projects, presented the final plans to the Board with the recommendation to apply for Highland, Crowley, and Fairview in that priority order for the Alternative Option Program that does not have the class size reduction requirement.

There was no public comment.

Michael Lane moved to approve the recommendation to apply for the Alternative Program of QEIA for Highland, Crowley and Fairview. Juan Guerrero seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**SCIENCE TEXT-
BOOK ADOPTION
K-12 GRADES
Motion No. 157**

Linda Bastrire, Coordinator, K-6 Curriculum, and Stacy Curschman, Coordinator 7-12 Curriculum, presented the Science Textbook Adoption K-12 Grades. (Encl. No. 9) In accordance with BP 6161.1, Visalia Unified School District is required by the California Department of Education to form district committees to review instructional materials placed on the State adopted list. The District Science Instructional Materials Evaluation Committees are recommending that the Board adopt the following science textbook materials for grades K-12:

- K-6 MacMillan/McGraw Hill – *California Science Series*
- 7-8 Prentice Hall – California Series
 - Focus on Life Science*
 - Focus on Physical Science*
- 9-12 McDougal-Littell – *Biology*
Prentice Hall – *Chemistry*
Holt – *Physics*
Holt – *Earth Science*

The district will use the Instructional Materials Fund (IMF) provided by the California Department of Education to purchase the textbooks.

Larry Jones moved to approve the committees' recommendations for the new science textbooks for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**ROUTINE ACTION
Motion No. 158**

Doug Bartsch, Area Administrator K-6 Schools, reported that Western Milling has generously donated all materials and labor for the installation of a parking lot on the west side of the Goshen School campus. The total cost of the project was \$32,122. (Encl. No. 15)

Jim Qualls moved to approve the Routine Action Items, Encl. No. 10-22. Juan Guerrero seconded the Motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

9.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - March 2, 2007 through March 9, 2007 (Encl. No. 10)
2. 2006-07 Budget Revision No. 12 (Encl. No. 11)
3. Change Order #2 - El Diamante High School Pool Project (Encl. No. 12)
4. Request to Piggyback off Antioch Unified School District for Furniture (Encl. No. 13)

9.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, K-6; 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Request(s) (Encl. No. 14)

2. Western Milling Donation for Installation of Parking Lot at Goshen School (Encl. No. 15)
- 9.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
 1. Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report (Encl. No. 16)
- 9.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 17)
 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 18)
 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 19)
 4. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for 2006-07 (Encl. No. 20)
- 9.5 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
 1. Adoption of Special Education Local Plan and Assurances (Encl. No. 21)
 2. Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 27, 2007 (Encl. No. 22)

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION**

**RECOMMENDED
EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 159**

Michael Lane moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 07-80-E, Case No. 07-81 E, Case No. 07-82 E, Case No. 07-83 E, Case No. 07-84 E, Case No. 07-85 E, Case No. 07-86 E, Case No. 07-87 E, Case No. 07-88 E, and Case No. 07-89 E (Encl. No. 23). Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDED
SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 160**

Jim Qualls moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendation for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 07-33 SE. (Encl. No. 24) Rob Stephenson seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

**CONSIDERATION OF
LEASE-LEASEBACK
AGREEMENT WITH
ORAL E. MICHAM
INC. FOR
SOUTHEAST
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL PROJECT
Motion No. 161**

At the Board meeting on March 13, 2007, staff presented a proposal to pursue an alternative project delivery method for the proposed southeast elementary school project. At that time, the Board provided direction to staff to continue to pursue this alternative approach referred to as "Lease-Leaseback." Staff has pursued the alternative approach and has met with Oral E. Micham Inc. Randy Groom, Director of Administrative Services, presented the draft of the Lease-Leaseback Agreement. (Encl. No. 25) Based on the unique circumstances and critical timing path of the southeast elementary project, it is recommended that the Board authorize staff to negotiate and execute a Lease-Leaseback Agreement with Oral E. Micham Inc. for this project.

Staff would continue the negotiations process with Oral E. Micham Inc. and return to the Board with a construction contract for consideration of approval.

There was no public comment.

Rodney Elder moved to approve the recommendation to authorize staff to negotiate and execute a Lease-Leaseback Agreement with Oral E. Micham Inc. and Visalia Unified School District. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia (unless otherwise posted).

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Lane
Clerk

Stan A. Carrizosa
Superintendent