



*“Every Student Succeeds”*

Tuesday, February 21, 2012  
Board Room  
5000 West Cypress Avenue  
Visalia, CA

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
*6:00 p.m.*

**A G E N D A**

In order to ensure that members of the public are provided a meaningful opportunity to address the Board on non-agenda items or agenda items that are within the Board's jurisdiction, non-agenda items may be addressed at the public comment portion of the agenda and agenda items may be addressed at the time the matter is considered by the Board. During the evening, many of the Board members will be speaking on various subjects. It should be noted that each Board member expresses only his/her opinion and not the opinion of the entire Board. Teleconferencing may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting. All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by roll call.

If documents are distributed to Board members concerning an agenda item within 72 hours of a regular Board meeting, at the same time the documents will be made available for public inspection at the Visalia Unified School District, Superintendent's Office located at 5000 W. Cypress Avenue, Visalia, CA 93277.

This meeting is held in an area accessible to the disabled. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings, call (559) 730-7529 forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting. For Hearing-Impaired, call (559) 730-7375 (TDD) forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time to request signing services. Visually Impaired - if enlarged print or a Braille copy is desired, please request in advance of the meeting and services will be provided as soon as possible after the meeting.

Board meetings are now webcasted live at <http://www.vusd.org/webcast>. Each School Board Meeting live webcast will begin at the scheduled start time on the date of the meeting and end at the conclusion of the meeting.

**Estimated**

**Timeline:**

***6:00 p.m.***

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**
  - 1.1 DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
  - 1.2 CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER
  - 1.3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – TIM CHANEY

***6:05 p.m.***

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENTS / STATUS REPORTS / ACTION** (as applicable)
  - 2.1 General public comment on any school related topic may be heard at this time. The Board asks that any public comment on an item listed on

tonight's agenda be addressed at the time the item comes up for discussion by the Board. Pursuant to Board Policy, the Board may limit individual comments to no more than 3 minutes and individual topics to 20 minutes. Please begin your comments by stating your name.


- 6:10 p.m.* 3. **PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATIONS/ACTION**  
3.1 RECOGNIZE BUS DRIVERS FOR SAFE EVACUATION OF STUDENTS (Encl. No. 1)  
3.2 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION (Encl. No. 2)

- 7:10 p.m.* 4. **ADJOURNMENT**
5. **NEXT MEETING**  
Unless otherwise determined, the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be February 28, 2012, with Open Session – Public Comment starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia and then adjourning into Closed Session. The regular meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room (unless otherwise posted).

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Encl. No. 1

Board Meeting Date of February 21, 2012

TO: Board of Education  
FROM: Craig Wheaton, Ed.D., Superintendent  
PREPARED BY: Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent Administrative Services  
APPROVED BY:  Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent Administrative Services  
PRESENTED BY: Katie White, Transportation Director

**AGENDA TITLE: Recognize Bus Drivers for Safe Evacuation of Students**

**AGENDA SECTION:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Recognition/Proclamations/ Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Focus on Student Learning: Presentation/ Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Comment/Public Interest Announcements/Status Reports/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda
<input type="checkbox"/> General Agenda: Review/Public Hearing/Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Panel Recommendations/ Action

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

It is an extremely rare event for a School Bus to catch fire. It is even rarer for two school buses in the same District to catch fire within a week of each other. Our Transportation Department experienced just that, earlier this month.

Margarita Trujillo, who began her bus driving career with VUSD in April of 2007, was the driver of bus #23 on January 26<sup>th</sup> when the bus had a mechanical failure and the engine caught fire on Campus Dr. east of Demaree St. Over 40 Green Acres Middle and Sequoia High School students on board were able to safely evacuate the bus due to Margarita's quick thinking and determined actions.

Sabine Konrad, who began her bus driving career with VUSD in March of 2008, was the driver of bus #3 on February 1<sup>st</sup> when the bus had a mechanical failure and the engine caught fire on Virmargo St. and Millcreek. Sabine directed over 40 students from Mineral King Elementary, Valley Oak Middle and Golden West High Schools to safety by ordering the evacuation of the bus.

It is because of their care and dedication to the children of VUSD that we recognize, thank and commend Margarita Trujillo and Sabine Konrad.

**CONTRACT CHANGES:** N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Recognize, thank and commend Margarita Trujillo and Sabine Konrad

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** N/A

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Encl. No. 2

Board Meeting Date of February 21, 2012

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Craig Wheaton, Ed.D., Superintendent

PREPARED BY: Drew S. Sorensen, Area Superintendent  
Todd Oto, Ed.D., Area Superintendent

APPROVED BY: Drew S. Sorensen, Area Superintendent *DS*  
Todd Oto, Ed.D., Area Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Drew S. Sorensen, Area Superintendent  
Todd Oto, Ed.D., Area Superintendent

**AGENDA TITLE: Student Achievement Awards and Recognition**

**AGENDA SECTION:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Recognition/Proclamations/ Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Focus on Student Learning: Presentation/ Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Comment/Public Interest Announcements/Status Reports/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda
<input type="checkbox"/> General Agenda: Review/Public Hearing/Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Panel Recommendations/ Action

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

At a special Board meeting during the traditional school year, high school students are recognized by the Board for outstanding achievement in a specific area of curriculum.

This month the Board will be honoring outstanding students in Visual Performing Arts, Orchestra, Industrial Technology, and English. Students from Sequoia High School, Charter Alternatives Academy, Visalia Charter Independent Study and Visalia Adult School will also be recognized for overall achievement.

In addition, the United Students Association of Visalia (USAV) will also be recognizing the winter Student of the Season.

**CONTRACT CHANGES:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A



BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 21, 2012, 6:00 P.M. – EDUCATION COMPLEX

Recognition for Outstanding Achievement

1. The Area Superintendent will say a few words about the presentation and will acknowledge teachers and parents. Thereafter, he will call the first principal to the podium.
2. The principal will introduce the students and have them stand.
3. The principal will then read the speech on each student. At the end of each speech, board members will place the medal on the student.
4. Once the principal has concluded the list of their respective students, a group picture along with the board member will be taken.
5. The students will return to their seats and the next principal will come to the podium and continue the process.

Students will be recognized in this order:

	<u>Student</u>	<u>Teacher Present</u>
Sequoia	Tyler Henry -- (Overall Achievement) Luisa Gonzalez -- (USAV Winter) Angel Macias -- (USAV Winter)	Yolanda Flores, Principal
Charter Alternatives Academy	Samuel Ramirez -- (Overall Achievement)	Scott Braden, Principal
Visalia Charter Independent Study	Rocio Pantoja -- (Overall Achievement)	Heather Rocha, Principal
Visalia Adult School	Richard Perez -- (Adult Basic Education)	Sharon Heffelfinger
Redwood	Tenney Rizzo -- (VAPA – 2-D Art) Celina Lim -- (VAPA – Choir) Jessica Ramirez -- (Industrial Technology) Andrea Pacheco -- (English) Adam Denison -- (Orchestra) Marly Carlisle -- (USAV Winter) Brandon MacDonald -- (USAV Winter)	Barbara Holmes Mel Carrillo Ken Cox Nick Miller Janet Grizzell
El Diamante	James Yokley -- (VAPA – Choir) Lane Mason -- (VAPA – Band) Zachary Faria -- (Industrial Technology) Michelle Kazmier -- (English) Ji Ho Park -- (USAV Winter) Nathan Feil -- (USAV Winter)	John Sorber Michael Tackett Don Brown Rebecca Jolly
Golden West	Melissa Neal -- (VAPA – Drama) Michael Hamilton -- (VAPA - Choir) Michael DeOrta-Medina -- (Industrial Technology) Emily Wood -- (English) Haylee Jennings -- (USAV Winter) Stephen Henriksen -- (USAV Winter)	Mike Wilson Paul Raheb Sergio Ledesma
Mt. Whitney	Holly Groom -- (VAPA – Dance) Vincent Rojas -- (VAPA – Choir) Justin Helin -- (Industrial Technology) Mayra Espinoza -- (English) Courtney Meinhold -- (USAV Winter) Cole Heinzin -- (USAV Winter)	Kelly Arreola Tim Howard Sam Bledsoe Rebecca Bullick