

Visalia Unified School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The meeting of October 23, 2001 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room, VUSD Educational Office Complex, 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia, followed by the determination that a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Leave</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Russ Bassett	5:12	10:10	
Niessen Foster	5:00	10:10	
Larry Jones	5:00	10:10	
Chuck Lindahl	5:12	10:10	
Milt Morrison	5:00	10:10	
Robert Stephenson	5:00	10:10	
Rick Wehmuller	5:10	10:10	
Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	5:00	10:10	
Kern Smith, Student Representative	7:00	10:10	

Staff Members

Mark Fulmer, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Educational Services
Kay Van Anandel, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
Elizabeth Parker, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office

CLOSED SESSION

President Morrison identified the closed session agenda items listed below. He asked if there was public comment on any of the items. As there was none, the board convened into closed session.

1. EXPULSIONS
2. SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957)
 1. Agency Negotiator: Kay Van Anandel
 - Employee Organizations: CSEA
VUTA
Management
4. SUPERINTENDENT'S MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REVIEW DUE TO BOARD PRESIDENT

**RECONVENE IN
OPEN SESSION**

At 7 p.m. the board reconvened in open session. President Morrison announced that no action had been taken in closed session. He then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION /**

PROCLAMATIONS

/ACTION

**STAFF/PARENTS/
COMMUNITY**

Recognition of Fairview
Elementary School
Teachers and Training
Program

Myron Sheklian introduced Frank Ohnesorgen, principal at Fairview Elementary School. Mr. Ohnesorgen recognized Laura Mohs, Leisa Jared and Mimi Bonds, teachers at Fairview, who shared information about a Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) Training Conference they attended in July (Encl. No. 1). Dr. Jeanine Berehend, from California State University, Fresno, was also recognized as she is assisting the district in developing an active collegial relationship with CSU, Fresno, related to CGI. The training was based on research on how the brain learns. The focus for the Fairview teachers was on teaching math. The three Fairview teachers will now begin training K-2nd grade staff at Fairview in CGI. Each of the Fairview teachers thanked the board for allowing them to attend the CGI training. Mr. Carrizosa thanked the teachers and Mr. Ohnesorgen for their willingness to undertake this project.

American Indian
Heritage Month -
November 2001
Motion No. 61

Clerk Rob Stephenson read a resolution designating November 2001 as American Indian Heritage Month (Encl. No. 2). On a motion by Stephenson and second by Foster, the resolution was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING
DIFFERENTIAL PAY
FOR EMPLOYEES
ON MILITARY
LEAVE**
Motion No. 62

President Morrison announced that Item 9.6 (Encl. No. 32) would be moved forward on the agenda. Mrs. Van Andel said that after learning that five district employees had been called to active duty because of the national crisis, the board directed staff to research and bring forward a recommendation in support of the employees and their families. Mr. Jim Pitkin presented a recommendation in the form of a resolution that allows for regular employees who have been called to active military duty for this military campaign to receive the difference between their district salary and their military salary so long as the military salary is less than the district salary. Additionally, the district requested that as part of the resolution the employees' health benefits, sick leave, vacation leave and holiday privileges remain intact. The employees and their families were commended for their dedication and commitment in this time of national crisis. The district extends its thoughts, prayers and best wishes to all Americans serving in the military across the United States and throughout the world. Mr. Pitkin introduced the family members of district employees on active duty present tonight. A hearty round of applause was extended to the group.

In response to a question from Mr. Bassett, Mr. Pitkin explained that the resolution as presented tonight is for an initial six-month period. He said that legislation may be pending at the state and federal levels that would extend the benefits beyond the 180-day period. If the board adopts tonight's resolution, staff will review it in February to decide if further action should be taken. Mrs. Van Andel assured the board that the resolution is aligned with the current contract.

In response to a question from Mr. Lindahl as to how the additional costs will be covered, Mr. Carrizosa stated that the support for the costs are provided from the district budget and money the district has currently budgeted for substitute costs.

On a motion by Jones and second by Bassett, the resolution was adopted. Ayes: all. Motion carried. President Morrison said that passing the resolution was fitting and proper and that he was proud to be a member of the board that passed it. He thanked Superintendent Carrizosa and district staff for bringing this issue to the board.

The wife of district employee, Mel Craig, who has been called to active duty, thanked the board on behalf of the families represented here tonight. She also thanked Redwood 9th graders for letters they had sent to the five families telling them how proud they are of them.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT/
PUBLIC INTEREST
ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Pam Russell, a parent, thanked the board for hiring Goshen Elementary School Principal, Marti Frolli. She also thanked Superintendent Carrizosa for his visits to the school. Mrs. Russell also thanked Mike Huggins for his interest in her concerns for Goshen Elementary. In conclusion, she asked if someday the district could provide Goshen Elementary with a multi-purpose building.

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

Elbow Creek Multi-
Purpose Room
Opening Celebration

Mr. Wehmueller reported that he had attended the opening celebration at Elbow Creek's multi-purpose building this past Thursday night. He said that the K-6th grade classes each performed patriotic songs and did a wonderful job. He thanked the teachers for putting the program together. He said it was nice to see the strong support of parents who attended the event.

Visit to Union School

Mr. Jones reported on his visit at Union School on Monday afternoon. He said that Mrs. Kuhn's sixth grade class had colored Styrofoam cups and colored them blue and red and had put them through the chain link fence that runs by Visalia Road in the shape of a flag. He said that on each Monday Union School students salute the flag and sing patriotic songs in the courtyard. He said that the students have invited a Visalia citizen who wrote a letter to the Times-Delta editor regarding flag salutes in classrooms to come one Monday. He said that good things are happening at Union School.

Flag Salute/Patriotic
Songs

Harvest Dance
Golden West Assembly
Red Ribbon Week
Redwood
Homecoming
USAV Meeting

Kern Smith reported that Mt. Whitney students are getting ready for their Harvest Dance this Saturday. Golden West will be holding an assembly this Friday. Each of the high schools will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week. Mr. Smith said that Redwood's ASB is beginning their Reading Rangers Project where students will visit elementary schools to read to students to get them excited about reading. Redwood's Homecoming was this past Friday. Mr. Smith concluded his report by saying that there was a USAV meeting a week ago Monday where the students determined their district-wide project would be campus beautification.

Redwood Civic's
Classes

Mr. Bassett reported that two weeks ago he had the opportunity to speak to five Civics classes at Redwood. He said that each class was unique and that it was a fun morning spent with the students answering their questions on a variety of subjects. He also reported on Friday's Bond Oversight Advisory Committee Meeting. He said that Dr. Fulmer will be providing board members with a packet of information on prefabricated construction that came from a presentation made to the BOAC by Turnkey and Associates from Southern

BOAC Meeting

California. Mr. Bassett further reported that discussion took place at the meeting on the process members should use to request information from district staff. The BOAC also discussed staggered two-year terms for membership appointments on the committee. Mr. Bassett concluded by saying that the use of construction management for district projects was also discussed by the BOAC; a presentation and recommendation will be coming to the board in the future. He said the meeting was very important and well-attended.

Elbow Creek
Ceremony
Conyer Elementary
“Nostalgia Night”

Mr. Foster reported that he had attended the Elbow Creek Open House Ceremonies. He said that the event was very well attended. He also attended “Nostalgia Night” at Conyer Elementary. He said he found the students to be very professional, were very mature, and did a tremendous job. He commended the community of Visalia for “making our schools the center of our community” as evidenced by the high attendance at both events. Today Mr. Foster responded to an earlier invitation he had received to attend Mr. Gluckman’s Economics and Government class. Superintendent Carrizosa also was present and Mr. Foster thanked him for answering the “very difficult questions asked about closed campus, food, etc.” He said that Mr. Carrizosa made a very favorable impression on the students.

Mr. Gluckman’s
Economics Class

Elbow Creek
Ceremony

Mr. Stephenson also attended the grand opening of Elbow Creek’s multi-purpose building. He said it was a tremendous program. He said that he was pleased to have his wife with him at the event. Following the program, Mrs. Stephenson made numerous comments on how excellent the program was. Mr. Stephenson also spoke at one of Mr. Beacom’s classes at Redwood and will be speaking again at a couple of other classes there this Friday. He then thanked Mr. Tonini and his staff for inviting him to Green Acres’ Academic Awards Night last Tuesday. There were 179 students last semester who achieved awards at some level. Mr. Stephenson said there was a tremendous turnout for the event. He concluded his report by sharing that several weeks ago he and Student Representative, Kern Smith, had a chance to visit and had discussed Mr. Smith’s college plans. Mr. Stephenson said that Kern is “one of the stars in our school system.”

Mr. Beacom’s Class at
Redwood
Green Acres Academic
Awards Night
Commend Kern Smith

Scholastic Audit
Update

Mr. Carrizosa asked Mr. Sheklian to update the board and community on the status of the scholastic audits taking place in the district. Mr. Sheklian reported that the audit team arrived Sunday night for their week-long visit to Houston Elementary. The team will be meeting with staff, students and parents during the week. On Friday, the team will meet with Cabinet and then go to Houston School for an exit report with school staff. Mr. Sheklian thanked the Professional Development Staff for the use of their room adjacent to the Radisson Hotel for the team to use at night. The team will send a final report to the State Superintendent of Education, Delaine Eastin. She, or a state representative will then meet with Mr. Carrizosa to develop a plan the district will use for the next 18 months.

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT
LEARNING**

Presentation/Public

Input/Board

Discussion/ACTION

REVIEW OF THE
FOURTH SECTION
OF THE 6000'S -

Mr. Carrizosa explained the process used to bring Enclosure No. 3 to the board for a first reading. The policies presented tonight highlight board policies relative to Instruction, specifically in the area of gifted and talented (GATE) student programs. Mr. Carrizosa said

INSTRUCTION -
FIRST READING

that the policy as presented tonight looks very close to our existing policy except for a change in how GATE students are allowed to be taught. He said that eligibility for GATE programs is moving away from self-contained programs and is moving toward ensuring that students who are identified as GATE students have the opportunity to be challenged and accelerated within the context of their regular classes.

The second policy included tonight is the Migrant Education Program. He highlighted the changes regarding reauthorization laws by Congress at the federal level with regard to the criteria used to designate migrant students.

The last policy in this series of 6000's deals with Work Experience Programs. Mr. Carrizosa said that there were a couple of legislative changes that required the district to update this policy regarding requirements for liability insurance, students participating in Work Experience Programs, and the criteria for students to be supervised and to participate in these programs off-campus.

ATTENDANCE
AREA FOCUS
COMMITTEE
BOARD RECOM-
MENDATIONS
Motion No. 63

Mr. Carrizosa opened the presentation on Enclosure No. 4. Two weeks ago staff gave the first formal presentation on the Attendance Committee's work on aligning the boundaries for the opening of El Diamante High School. He acknowledged Carlyn Lambert and Dan Leppek as the district's co-chairs on this project in addition to staff, parents, community members and businesses represented that served on the committee over the past several months. A lot of comprehensive information was shared at the October 9, 2001 board meeting and interested parents and community members shared their comments with regard to this issue. Following the October 9 presentation, the board directed staff to research residential growth in the community and projected enrollment numbers. Mr. Carrizosa said that staff will share the outcome of the research tonight. He affirmed that a lot of hard work had taken place on this project. He said, "This is a difficult challenge because the conditions of growth in a community like ours don't allow us the opportunity to satisfy everyone who is involved. The goal is to provide balanced enrollment for district schools."

Carlyn Lambert shared information received by contacting Clovis Unified and Kern High School Districts on how they address boundary changes with their continuing growth in enrollment. Mrs. Lambert also met with City representatives and talked about growth projections for Visalia. She displayed a map of the City which was color coded to reflect current as well as proposed boundaries. It is projected that in January City staff will ask the City Council to form a community-based group to review the boundaries. It takes an estimated 18 months from the time a committee is chosen to get information back to the City for their review. She also related what the City is projecting to be the strongest growth areas in Visalia.

Mr. Dan Leppek then reviewed the underlying assumptions that were shared at the October 9, 2001 board meeting. He also reviewed Plans C and D as recommended by the Attendance Area Focus Committee. The two plans were chosen from 12-14 plans studied by the Committee.

The session was opened to public comment. Several parents spoke regarding their support for Plan C.

Following a lengthy discussion by the board where they shared their support of either Plan C or Plan D, on a motion by Jones and a second by Stephenson, the board approved Plan C. Ayes: Jones, Lindahl, Stephenson and Wehmueller. Noes: Bassett, Foster and Morrison. Motion carried. The board thanked the committee and staff for their efforts on this project.

As there were additional recommendations for the board to consider in voting on this item, Mr. Bassett moved to adopt the four additional recommendations by the committee as presented tonight. Mr. Wehmueller seconded the motion. Mr. Lindahl asked that the four recommendations be considered on an individual basis. Mr. Bassett withdrew his motion and Mr. Wehmueller withdrew his second. Mr. Bassett then moved that El Diamante High School open in 2002-2003 with a freshman class only. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Ayes: Bassett, Foster, Jones, Morrison, Stephenson and Wehmueller. No: Lindahl. Mr. Lindahl expressed his preference that El Diamante High School open with both a Freshman and Sophomore class. As this was his only objection to the recommendations, Mr. Lindahl suggested that the remaining three recommendations be voted on as one. Mr. Stephenson moved that the remaining recommendations be approved as follows: the eighth grade students who live in the La Joya boundary area are expected to attend El Diamante, unless granted an intradistrict transfer following existing policies and procedures; Crestwood, Veva Blunt, Goshen and Linwood to remain the feeder schools to La Joya. La Joya to be the feeder school to El Diamante; and students enrolled in sixth grade for the 2001-2002 school year will follow the newly designated elementary/middle/high school feeder system. Parents will have the option to apply for an intradistrict transfer following existing policies and procedures. Mr. Bassett seconded the motion. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

ROUTINE ACTION
Motion No. 64

On a motion by Jones and second by Bassett, Routine Action Items 8.1 through 8.5 were approved as follows:

8.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - October 1 through October 15, 2001 (Encl. No. 5)
2. Budget Revision No. 04 (Current Year) (Encl. No. 6)
3. tBP Additional Professional Services Agreement - 96010.15 El Diamante High School Project (Encl. No. 7)
4. tBP Additional Professional Services Agreement - 96010.16 El Diamante High School Project (Encl. No. 8)
5. Approval to Advertise for Roof Replacement at Sierra Vista (Encl. No. 9)
6. Change Order #1 - Elbow Creek Elementary School Multipurpose Building (Encl. No. 10)
7. Change Order #1 - Modular Building Project (Divisadero Site) (Encl. No. 11)
8. Notice of Completion - Installation of Local Area Network at Elbow Creek School (Encl. No. 12)
9. Notice of Completion - Installation of Local Area Network at Crestwood School (Encl. No. 13)
10. Notice of Completion - Installation of Local Area Network at Pinkham School (Encl. No. 14)

11. Notice of Completion - Resurfacing Tennis Courts at Redwood and Mt. Whitney High School (Encl. No. 15)
12. Non-Approval of Bid 4372 - Health Benefits, Classified Employees (Encl. No. 16)
13. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 17)
- 8.2 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, 7-12/Adult
 1. Student Field Trip Request (s) (Encl. No. 18)
 2. Resolution: Visalia Adult School Children's Center Designated Signatory (Encl. No. 19)
- 8.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
 1. Transfer Report 2001-02 (Encl. No. 20)
 2. Education Technology Professional Development Program (Encl. No. 21)
 3. 2001-2002 School Plan Updates: Golden West and Hurley (Encl. No. 22)
- 8.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 23)
 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 24)
 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 25)
- 8.5 SUPERINTENDENT
 1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2001 (Encl. No. 26)

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**GENERAL
AGENDA**

Review/Public Input/
Board Discussion/

ACTION

REVIEW REVISION
TO BP AND AR
5116.1 -
INTRADISTRICT
OPEN
ENROLLMENT -
SECOND AND
FINAL READING
Motion No. 65

Mr. Carrizosa explained that Enclosure No. 27 was presented as a second reading. The changes as presented on October 9 for the first reading on this policy cleaned up some date specific information for transition period during the opening of the last school, clarified some preferred status criteria and aligned the administrative regulation with the wording in the policy. On a motion by Bassett and second by Stephenson, the item was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF
UNDER-STANDING
BETWEEN VUSD
AND THE CITY OF
VISALIA
Motion No. 66

Dr. Fulmer explained that Enclosure No. 28 would lay the groundwork for working cooperatively with the City of Visalia in the development of a new compressed natural gas facility. On a motion by Bassett and second by Stephenson, the item was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

CHANGE ORDER
#5, EL DIAMANTE
HIGH SCHOOL
PROJECT
Motion No. 67

Richard Carlson explained that Enclosure No. 29 addresses approximately 27 items. He said that the change order is an increase to the contract of \$259,153 with 0 days extended on the contract. He said that staff is recommending approval of these items. Mr. Bassett asked for clarification of Item No. 27. Mr. Randy Rominger, with Kitchell CEM, said that the item is the completion of Area C irrigation and planting. Mr. Bassett asked Mr. Kitchell if this change will encompass three softball diamonds, three baseball diamonds and a track. Mr. Kitchell clarified that Area A and B together accommodate varsity and junior varsity baseball and softball and that Area C will accommodate two more fields, one for softball and one for baseball. Mr. Bassett clarified that there will be three diamonds for each sport for each gender in addition to a track. Mr. Rominger agreed. On a motion by Wehmueller and second by Bassett, Enclosure No. 29 was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

AGREEMENT WITH
HIDDEN OAK
DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY
Motion No. 68

Dr. Fulmer presented Enclosure No. 30. He said that the Hidden Oak Development Company is looking to establish a gated housing development directly north of Hurley School. As part of their effort, they are wanting to provide certain street improvements to the road east of Hurley School. They would also like to install a turnaround at the end of the road where it would abut the gated entry to the development. Hidden Oak has asked that the district consider allowing them to develop part of our property as part of the turnaround. They would pay for all the cost of the development of the 800+ sq. ft. In consideration of this allowance, the company would also pay all the costs of relocating any playground equipment at the school. They will also provide certain improvements to the district's side of the road. Also proposed as part of the development is a change to the use of our storm water drain system which Dr. Fulmer explained would be a benefit to the district. One cost that will be borne by the district in the future is a 4-8 ft. section of pipe that we would need to install from our current storm water system where it drains into the basin to the new system that is being installed by the developer. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Foster, the agreement was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

VISALIA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT
STAFF REVIEW
FOR
EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES
UNLIMITED -
PERFORMING
ARTS AND
COMMUNICATION
EDUCATION
(PACE) CHARTER
SCHOOL PETITION
Motion No. 69

Carlyn Lambert presented Enclosure No. 31 for Rick Rodriguez who was ill tonight. Mrs. Lambert read the staff findings which had lead to a recommendation that the PACE petition be denied. The petition had also been reviewed by the firm of Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann and Girard. Mary Landry Clark explained that a PACE Committee had rewritten their material following their first presentation at the October 9 board meeting. She provided board members with a copy of the revised petition. Dr. Spiva then addressed the board. He thanked district staff and its attorneys for the work they had done in reviewing the PACE petition. He provided board members with a copy of his responses to the findings and then presented them orally.

After hearing Dr. Spiva's responses to the district's findings, board members discussed how to proceed with the revised petition. Mr. Bassett moved that the item be tabled until the November 13 meeting. Mr. Carrizosa said that this would allow staff time to consider the revisions to the petition and to present their findings and recommendations relative to tonight's supplement to the original petition. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS**

EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 70

On a motion by Wehmuller and second by Stephenson, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Expulsion Case No. 02-07 E, Case No. 02-08 E, Case No. 02-09 E, Case No. 02-10 E and Case No. 02-11 E (Encl. No. 33) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS**
Motion No. 71

On a motion by Bassett and second by Wehmuller, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Suspended Expulsion Case No. 02-02 SE (Encl. No. 34) were approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be November 13, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress, Visalia.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Jones
Clerk

Stan A. Carrizosa
Superintendent/Secretary