

**Visalia Unified School District  
Board of Education**

**MINUTES**

**OPENING BUSINESS** The meeting of November 12, 2002, was called to order at 6:00 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>
Rodney Elder	6:00	10:37	
Juan R. Guerrero	6:00	10:37	
Larry Jones	6:00	10:37	
Michael Lane	6:00	10:37	
Laura Pace	6:00	10:37	
Jim L. Qualls	6:00	10:37	
Robert Stephenson	6:00	10:37	
Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	6:00	10:37	
Ed Sonier, Student Representative	7:00	8:30	

**Staff Members**

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

Closed session agenda items were noted as follows:

1. Expulsions
2. Suspended Expulsions
3. Public Employee Appointment or Employment
  1. Chief Financial Officer
4. Conference with Labor Negotiator
  1. Agency Negotiator: Kay Van Andel
  2. Employee Organization
    1. VUTA

Public comment was called for. There was none so the board convened into closed session.

**RECONVENE IN  
OPEN SESSION**

Motion No. 69

The board reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m. President Stephenson announced that in closed session, on a motion by Qualls, a second by Lane, and a unanimous vote, Robert Groeber was appointed Chief Financial Officer of the district. Mr. Qualls lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC  
RECOGNITION /  
PROCLAMATIONS /  
ACTION**

**STUDENTS**

Student Achievement  
Awards

Students receiving USAV Students of the Season Awards for Fall (Encl. No. 1) were: Garrett Morgan and Julianne Bettencourt from Golden West; Claire Borges from Mt.

Whitney; Nkaujsoua Xiong and Hasan Khashwji from Redwood; and Kathie Saechao and Blaine Fowler from Sequoia.

Students receiving Academic Achievement Awards were: Michael Galloway (Foreign Language) and Norma Solis (ELD) from El Diamante; Claire Little (Foreign Language) and Jose de Jesus Martinez (ELD) from Golden West; Patricia Aguayo (ELD) and Joe Moeller (Foreign Language) from Mt. Whitney; Fatima Villa (ELD), Adam Wilson (Library Science) and Matt Dearborn (Foreign Language) from Redwood; Xue Vang (Overall Achievement) from Sequoia; and Leona Van Tassel (Overall Achievement) from Charter Alternatives Academy.

Following the presentations, students, parents and teachers were given a warm round of applause.

**PUBLIC COMMENT /  
PUBLIC INTEREST  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The session was opened to public comment. There was none.

**BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS /  
REQUESTS /  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Sessions on Anti-  
Harassment  
Ball Games/Teams

Jim Qualls reported that he had attended three of the district sessions on anti-harassment. He attended a ball game on Thursday night and complimented the Visalia teams' efforts to be champions. He said that he is impressed with all three teams.

Golden West Virtual  
Enterprise

Laura Pace participated in the Golden West Virtual Enterprise grand opening. She said the day long event was a great experience and that the students were working hard at building their own business. She said that the students "sold" her about \$1,000 worth of car parts. Mrs. Pace commended staff and business community leaders for joining together to "make things better for our kids."

Healthy Families Program  
Proposition 47

Michael Lane commended CTA and the movement to promote the Healthy Families Program through Medi-Cal. He encouraged the district to work with CTA to make sure that eligible students are signed up. Mr. Lane thanked the voters for passing Proposition 47. He said the Proposition passed 59% statewide and over 51% in Tulare County. He noted that we should "keep an eye on" Proposition 49. Mr. Lane asked if it would be appropriate to send the new State Superintendent of Education, Jack O'Connell, a letter of congratulations. He also suggested that we include in the letter our support of the regional offices of FFA. Mr. Lane spoke of the immense investment in California in Class Size Reduction. With regard to improved API scores, Mr. Lane said that the real key to our students succeeding is the alignment of our curriculum with state standards. Mr. Lane attended today's inauguration of the new track at the Boys and Girls Club. He suggested that the other board members visit the site. The new track is east of the Club's current site. Mr. Lane expressed his continuing support of the Boys and Girls Club.

Jack O'Connell  
Support of Regional FFA  
Offices

Class Size Reduction

Boys and Girls Clubs

Cowhide  
Peer-to-Peer Education

Ed Sonier reported that many fans attended the Cowhide on November 8 where Redwood defeated Mt. Whitney 27-6. He said that class discussions have been taking place with regard to the peer-to-peer education program and that it is nice to see students talking about being sensitive about labeling people.

Anti-Discrimination  
Presentation

Rod Elder congratulated staff for their work on the anti-discrimination presentation. He said that the people involved did an excellent job. He said that the people he spoke with

WYL Sanctioning of Schools	did not have a positive feeling when they went into the presentation, but came out feeling positive about the way the information will be shared with our students. Mr. Elder attended the game between Sanger High and Mt. Whitney. He said that it was an excellent game and that the WYL is a tremendous league this year. Mr. Elder reported on an article he had read in an ACSA newspaper on the sanctioning of schools. The article referred to a number of schools that had done so well on the API that they received money from the state, but then two years later had extremely poor API scores.
Consent Decree Mayor's Committee on Disabilities Recognition of School-to-Career and Work Experience Staffs Proteus Workshop	Juan Guerrero attended informational meetings on the Consent Decree at Redwood and El Diamante. He said that staff did a great job in answering questions from parents. Two weeks ago Mr. Guerrero participated in the Mayor's Committee on Disabilities. He said that the committee works to promote services for the physically challenged. Mr. Guerrero extended recognition to our district School-to-Career and Work Experience staffs. Mr. Guerrero said that Proteus sponsored a workshop on child labor laws a couple of weeks ago. He was unable to attend, but said that a report from the meeting will be sent to the district.
Veva Blunt Visit	Mr. Jones reported that he visited Veva Blunt and thanked Mrs. Suits for taking the time to show him the classrooms, meet the teachers and see the programs and reading labs. He said that Veva Blunt is making preparations for becoming a traditional school rather than year-round. Mr. Jones shared a concern regarding the parking and the area that children are dropped off and picked up at Veva Blunt. He said he would like to see if there is anything the district can do to fix the problem.
CSBA Masters in Governance Meetings on Consent Decree Veva Blunt Traffic Issue PTA Luncheon	Mr. Stephenson spoke of the CSBA Masters in Governance class in which some of the board members are participating. He said that the classes expand the members' knowledge of the complexities of public education. Mr. Stephenson said that he was very pleased with the meetings on the Consent Decree and commended staff for an "outstanding job." Mr. Stephenson said that he was in agreement with Mr. Jones about the traffic situation at Veva Blunt. He also spoke about the traffic configuration at Mt. View and asked staff to look for a solution there also. The PTA luncheon will be tomorrow and Mr. Stephenson said that he is looking forward to being there.
Commend Board Community Stadium Corporate Sponsors	Mr. Carrizosa thanked the board members for their comments and for the work they are doing in the district. He then reminded the board that the district is seeking the community's participation in developing the community stadium. He gave the board a sample of a sponsorship agreement in the event the district acquires a corporate sponsor. Mr. Carrizosa said that the district hopes to have the first component of the project on the December Board Meeting Agenda. He said that as early as December, the district will start the process for soliciting corporate sponsorship of the stadium.
Corporate Sponsors	Mr. Jones asked if corporate sponsorships would be limited to the stadium. Mr. Carrizosa said that the district is willing to have sponsors on any type of major amenity construction there.

**FOCUS ON STUDENT  
LEARNING**  
Presentation/Public  
Comment/Board  
Discussion/ACTION

REPORT ON VISALIA  
ADULT SCHOOL'S  
CHILDREN'S CENTER

Adult School Principal, Caroline Casida, Assistant Principal, Jill Rojas, and the Director of the Adult School's Children Center, Margaret McLain, shared in a report on the Children's Center. The grand opening of the center was a year ago. A PowerPoint Presentation included the Adult School's Vision Statement and statistics about the population the school serves. The school currently serves 9,087 students who attend a total of 22,000 courses. During the 2001-02 school year, 6,971 vocational education certificates were earned. Post education employment data indicated that 70% of those students were working in the medical field. The school issued 350 GED certificates last year and 220 high school diplomas. Mrs. Casida said that Mrs. Rojas was very instrumental in getting the funding for the much needed child care center. Mrs. Rojas reported that in September 2000, a grant was written and the school was awarded \$500,000 in November 2000 to acquire the facility. Margaret McLain reported on the curriculum and activities taking place at the center. She said that the center's mission is to provide high quality child care to our children and their families. Their goal is to offer a safe, nurturing and age appropriate learning environment and to enrich the lives of young children. The center services 2-6 year-old children. There are currently 69 children enrolled in the program; there is a capacity for 78 students. The center offers full- and part-time care between 5:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Mrs. McLain talked about the various opportunities for learning available to the children in the program. Board member Lane commended the staff of the Adult School for their program and the wonderful child care facility.

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISION TO  
MANDATED BP/AR  
5145.2 - FREEDOM OF  
SPEECH/EXPRESSION -  
FIRST READING

Mr. Carrizosa said that Enclosure No. 3 reflects new law relative to student speech on and off campus. The policy highlights the right of free speech but also addresses school regulations and the usage of the Internet by students.

REVIEW OF CSBA  
REVISION TO  
MANDATED BP/AR  
5145.7 - SEXUAL  
HARASSMENT - FIRST  
READING

Enclosure No. 4 includes a mandated policy and reorganizes headings and updates them to include confidentiality of complaints and allegations.

REVIEW CSBA  
RECOMMENDATION  
FOR BP 6145.3 -  
PUBLICATIONS -  
FIRST READING

CSBA suggests the deletion of redundant wording in this policy. The wording is also contained in BP 6145.3 (Encl. No. 5).

REVIEW STAFF  
REVISION TO  
MANDATED AR  
6162.51 -  
STANDARDIZED  
TESTING AND  
REPORTING  
PROGRAM - FIRST  
READING

Enclosure No. 6 includes shaded areas that address the mandated assessment program with regard to special education students.

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISION TO  
MANDATED BP/AR  
6164.2 - GUIDANCE/  
COUNSELING  
SERVICES - FIRST  
READING

Enclosure No. 7 includes a requirement by law that the district, as a recipient of Title 1 funds, allow military recruiters to make presentations to our students. This policy will also allow prospective employers to recruit our students for jobs.

REVIEW REVISION TO  
BB 9250 -  
REMUNERATION,  
REIMBURSEMENT,  
AND OTHER BENEFITS  
- FIRST READING

Enclosure No. 8 reflects a change in law that authorizes the school board, on a majority vote of the board, to increase their annual compensation by no more than 5% of their current stipend.

These policies will come back for board approval at the December 10 meeting.

Discussion took place regarding Enclosure No. 7. Board members expressed their support of our school counselors. Members shared their concern that there are not enough counselors to address the needs of our students. Mr. Carrizosa responded that any time board policies like this one are reviewed, it brings in view the monetary limits placed on education's challenge to take care of the needs of our schools and our students. He said that the district shares the frustration felt by the board. Currently the district is looking at a way to do an assessment of our guidance and counseling services so that a realistic expectation can be put together. He said that the goal and intent is to look at a whole structure of guidance and counseling services and to find a good model and "try to find a way to do it better." President Stephenson suggested that there be a study session on this topic next year so we can determine where we stand so we can work on a plan to improve the model. Mr. Elder responded to the discussion by adding that administrative staff members as well as others on staff also fill in as counselors for our students. Mr. Lane said that we need to look for funding for improved counseling services.

**ROUTINE ACTION**  
Motion No. 70

Board members pulled Item 8.5.3 (Encl. No. 25), 8.6.1 (Encl. No 29) and 8.6.3 (Encl. No. (Encl. No. 31) for further discussion. On a motion by Qualls and second by Guerrero, the remaining items were approved as follows:

8.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - October 16 through October 31, 2002 (Encl. No. 9)
2. 2002-03 Budget Revision No. 04 (Encl. No. 10)
3. Change Order #2 - Divisadero Middle School Modularity (Encl. No. 11)
4. Change Order #2 - Linwood Elementary School Relocatable Project (Encl. No. 12)
5. Change Order #5 - Washington Relocatable Project (Encl. No. 13)
6. Notice of Completion - Washington Relocatable Project (Encl. No. 14)
7. tBP Additional Professional Services Agreement - 96010.21, El Diamante High School Building 5 (Encl. No. 15)
8. Notice of Completion - HVAC Project at Various Sites - Deferred Maintenance Project (Encl. No. 16)
9. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 17)
10. Request to Piggyback for Furniture and Equipment (Encl. No. 18)

8.2 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 19)

2. Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Grant Section 131 (Encl. No. 20)
- 8.3 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, K-6
  1. Charter Home School Academy Request for Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM) (Encl. No. 21)
- 8.4 CURRICULUM
  1. High School Course Outline: Literature and Expression (P) (Formerly Creative Writing) (Encl. No. 22)
- 8.5 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
  1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 23)
  2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 24)
  3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 25)
  4. 2002-2003 Operations Application: K-3 Class Size Reduction (Encl. No. 26)
  5. Certification of Acceptance for 2002-03 Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Grant (Encl. No. 27)
  6. Certification of Updated Coach List for Winter Sports (Encl. No. 28)
- 8.6 SUPERINTENDENT
  1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 24, 2002 (Encl. No. 29)
  2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2002 (Encl. No. 30)
  3. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of October 15, 2002 (Encl. No. 31)
  4. Date of Annual Organizational Meeting - December 10, 2002 (Encl. No. 32)

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Motion No. 71 Relative to Item 8.5.3 (Encl. No. 25), Mr. Lane objected to the requested amount for providing a disc jockey and sound technical services for upcoming dances, games and other school events at Golden West. Mr. Lane also asked that the consultant's background be clarified. He made the motion that this item be denied. There was no second. Mr. Elder then moved to approve the consultants as listed in the enclosure and Mr. Qualls seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion on this item, Mr. Lane pulled his objection. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Motion No. 72 Mr. Qualls asked for a separate vote on item 8.6.1 as he did not attend the board meeting of September 24, 2002. On a motion by Elder and second by Guerrero, the Minutes were approved. Ayes: Elder, Guerrero, Jones, Lane, Pace and Stephenson. Abstain: Qualls. Motion carried.

Motion No. 73 Mrs. Pace asked for a correction of the Minutes of October 15, 2002 to add her name to the list of board members for that meeting. Mrs. Pace was in attendance at the meeting. On a motion by Elder and second by Guerrero, the minutes as corrected were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
PANEL RECOM-  
MENDATIONS  
EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 74**

On a motion by Qualls and second by Lane, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Expulsion Case No. 03-14 E, Case No. 03-15 E, Case No. 03-16 E and Case No.

03-17 E (Encl. No. 33) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

SUSPENDED  
EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 75

On a motion by Lane and second by Qualls the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Suspended Expulsion Case No. 03-04SE and Case No. 03-05 SE (Encl. No. 34) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

## **GENERAL AGENDA**

Review / Public Input /  
Board Discussion /

### **ACTION**

REPORT FROM  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
COMMITTEE ON  
CONVERSION OF  
YEAR-ROUND  
SCHOOLS  
Motion No. 76

Myron Sheklian presented Enclosure No. 35, assisted by a PowerPoint Presentation. Mr. Sheklian reported that on March 26, 2002, the board adopted district-wide goals for the 2002-03 school year. One of the goals authorized the appointment of an advisory committee to assist in a review and study of the feasibility of moving the year-round schools to a common traditional schedule. The committee was given five tasks which lead to the development of the recommendations presented for board consideration tonight. Mr. Sheklian recognized those committee members attending tonight's meeting. He said that there were between 40-45 members on the committee. The committee met on May 20, July 22, August 19 and September 23. The committee's recommendation was that Crowley, Fairview, Mountain View and Willow Glen make the transition for the 2003-04 school year and that Mineral King, Veva Blunt and Crestwood make the transition for the 2004-05 school year. Mr. Sheklian said, however, that shortly after the committee's recommendation was received, the announcement came that the new Northwest School would not open until 2004-05. With this change, moving Willow Glen this next year would not be practical. He said that changing this next year would necessitate adding short-term portables for one year on that site. Therefore, the recommendation was that Crestwood be moved over to traditional for the 2003-04 school year and Willow Glen go off for the 2004-05 school year. Mr. Sheklian said that this item was being presented for a first reading tonight and that it will come to the board for action at the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion regarding the types of portables that would be placed on the sites as well as the location of the portables and the timeline for scheduling their placements followed. A budget including the total expenses will be brought back with this item on December 10. Board member Lane expressed his appreciation of the work that has taken place in bringing forth tonight's recommendations.

AWARD OF BID 4443 -  
EL DIAMANTE HIGH  
SCHOOL TENNIS  
COURTS & LIGHTING  
Motion No. 77

Enclosure No. 36 was a request to award Bid 4443 - El Diamante High School Tennis Courts and Lighting to Ferandell Tennis Courts, Inc. Add Alternate 1 will not be awarded due to lack of funds at this time. Leeann Errotabere explained that the bid from California Sports Construction had been rejected due to a paperwork error. Mr. Doug Istas from California Sports addressed the board regarding the rejection of his bid. He felt that the bid should have been accepted. On a motion by Qualls and second by Lane, the bid was awarded to Ferandell Tennis Courts, Inc. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO  
SELL CERTAIN REAL  
PROPERTY  
Motion No. 78

Patty Rohman reported that on May 7, 2002, the board authorized district staff to initiate the process to sell certain real property in accordance with Education Code. A public notice was issued to other public entities regarding the district's intentions. The session was then opened to public comment. Nina Clancy spoke of her concern that the Dans Lane property being considered for sale, was the only property south of Caldwell left for building a school site. Mr. Carrizosa responded that the resolution to notice to the public the intention to sell certain district real property included for consideration tonight was for approximately 9.64 acres of the 19.64 acres of the Dans Lane property. Discussion continued regarding the City's interest in this property. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Qualls, the resolution was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**PURCHASE OF  
PROPERTY - NORTH  
STEVENSON STREET  
Motion No. 79**

Enclosure No. 38 was a request by the district to purchase Parcel Number 093-166-001-000 from California Water Services for \$2,255. The property is adjacent to Highland School and would be used for parking and storage. The parcel is approximately 3000 square feet. On a motion by Jones and second by Guerrero, the board authorized the purchase of the property. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**JOINT USE  
AGREEMENT -  
COLLEGE OF THE  
SEQUOIAS**

Mark Fulmer asked that Enclosure No 39 be pulled until the December 10, 2002 board meeting.

**PROBATION  
CONTRACT TO  
SERVICE CHARTER  
ALTERNATIVES  
ACADEMY  
(PACKWOOD)  
Motion No. 80**

Fred Nave presented Enclosure No. 40. He explained that the district was requesting approval for a contract between the Tulare County Probation Department and VUSD for a probation officer to serve students at Charter Alternatives Academy (Packwood). The officer would be employed on the campus for the remainder of the current school year on a full-time basis. He would provide support and counseling services to the approximately 80 students at that site. This partnership was made possible through several resources. The district would pay 60% of the officer's salary and the Probation Department would pay the remaining 40% of the salary. The salary for the remaining seven months of this school year would be approximately \$19,842. Mr. Nave also reported that through the efforts of Terry White, transportation director for the district, Giant Chevrolet has donated a vehicle for the probation officer's use. The officer will perform regular peace officer duties, including working with individual students and families, supervising students on formal or informal probation, counseling small groups on delinquency, substance abuse, anger and violence abuse and drug prevention. This extra support will hopefully prevent the students from entering into the juvenile justice system. If the contract is approved tonight, the officer would begin working on the campus in December or January. Mr. Rudy Soleno spoke in support of this added support for the students at Packwood. Board member Guerrero commended Mr. Soleno, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Carrizosa and Mr. Nave for "pushing this through." On a motion by Guerrero and second by Lane, the contract was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried. The contract will now be sent to the county for approval.

**STATUS  
REPORT/PUBLIC  
COMMENT  
FARMERSVILLE  
BOUNDARY STUDY  
COMMITTEE  
INVITATION**

Mr. Carrizosa reported that Farmersville Unified School District has invited VUSD to consider forming a study committee for the purpose of considering transferring some of our district territory to their district. He said that many efforts have been made to study this issue, going back as far as September 1991. The enclosure included Education Code specific to the "transfer of territory," and Mr. Carrizosa went through the different processes the districts would need to follow to address this issue. He further explained that in 1998 both VUSD and Farmersville agreed to transfer a portion of "uninhabited" territory, the one remaining portion of territory that was truly uninhabited. The feeling of that current VUSD board, however, was that they did not want to make a board decision to transfer any inhabited territory, but wanted the voters to make that decision. Mr. Carrizosa said that he wanted to know how the board felt about this issue before forming another study committee, because he wanted to be fair to both our district and Farmersville. He did not want to give Farmersville the impression that VUSD was of the mind to possibly transfer more territory. Mrs. Pace said that she had served on one of the committees studying this issue and that what it boiled down to was a lot of people that lived in the territory being discussed did not want to be transferred to Farmersville. She said that she does not see how the district can transfer inhabited territory without the people



living there voting on the issue. Other board members agreed with Mrs. Pace, however, they said that they would like more information on how many families would be involved, the financial impact on this district and information available from the former committees studying the issue. Mr. Stephenson said that he would like to have the opportunity to review the information from the former committees, along with the general facts, i.e., number of students, boundaries, etc. before the December board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be December 10, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michael D. Lane  
Clerk

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Stan A. Carrizosa  
Superintendent/Secretary