

**Visalia Unified School District
Board of Education**

MINUTES

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The meeting of March 25, 2003, was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Jones 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	5:30	11:00	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	11:00	
Larry Jones	5:30	11:00	
Michael Lane	5:30	11:00	
Laura Pace	5:30	11:00	
Jim L. Qualls	5:40	11:00	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	11:00	
Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	5:30	11:00	
Andrew Pipes, Student Representative	7:00	9:10	

Staff Members

Mark Fulmer, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Kay Van Anel, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
Liz Parker, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office

CLOSED SESSION

President Jones identified the closed session agenda topics as follows:

- 2.1 IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION
 1. EXPULSIONS
 2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
 1. Agency Negotiator: Kay Van Anel
 2. Employee Organization
 1. VUTA
 2. CSEA
 3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
 1. Property: Dans Lane/Caldwell
 2. Agency negotiator: Mark Fulmer
 3. Negotiating parties: Visalia Unified School District
 4. Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Purchase
 4. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
 1. Property: School Property at Shannon Parkway and County Center
 2. Agency negotiator: Mark Fulmer
 3. Negotiating parties: Visalia Unified School District
 4. Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Purchase

Mrs. Coy McDonald, a district parent, addressed the board regarding the conference with labor negotiator. She asked that everyone come to the table and do whatever it takes to save the jobs of 164 teachers. She asked that both sides make a compromise. Mr. Carrizosa told Mrs. McDonald that following discussion of the closed session agenda items, the board would reconvene in open session at 6:30 p.m. for a report on student assessment. At 7:00 p.m., the regular agenda would begin and a comprehensive report and cost analysis of the district's health benefits would take place as well as additional discussion of district negotiations. An opportunity for public comment will also be given at that time.

As there were no further comments, the board convened into closed session.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

At 6:30 p.m., the board reconvened in open session. President Jones reported that no action had been taken in the closed session.

EARLY BIRD STUDY SESSION STATE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Mrs. Karen Rowe, Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction, presented an overview of the report included in Enclosure No. 1 regarding the state assessment program at VUSD. She explained that state assessment always includes standardized tests, which are always administered in the same way, with the same directions, same time limits and same scoring criteria, to any group of students. She explained the difference between the norm-referenced test and the criterion-referenced test. These tests are part of the Contents Standards Test which are also types of assessment. Mrs. Rowe said that it is important for our district to look at the way it balances our assessment program and said that the most important assessment takes place in the classroom every day by the teacher. She added that good district assessment is also critical, as the information is used to determine the effectiveness of our education program and gives district staff information they need to support teaching staff and to help all students achieve. Mrs. Rowe also spoke of state and national assessment required of our district. She then shared information relative to the new "No Child Left Behind" law, which required that all states provide the Federal Department of Education an accountability plan, which met certain criteria, by the end of January 2003. The district has received some response regarding its plan in the form of peer review. Discussions are taking place regarding what the final plan will include. A definition of adequate yearly progress will be included in the final plan. Mrs. Rowe said that California has submitted a plan to the federal government that will have all of our students meeting proficiencies or above standards by 2014. Mrs. Rowe said that API scores and statewide rankings will continue to be posted on the internet and that the AYP reports for each school, district and state will be reported to the federal government to satisfy the requirement of the "No Child Left Behind" law. Approval of the plan submitted to the federal government is expected by May 1. Mrs. Rowe reviewed information given to the board in August, 2002, regarding STAR student data and spoke of district students who are eligible for the Governor Scholars Award Program as a result of their test results. She then explained the tests that will be given this spring. Mrs. Rowe continued tonight's report by reviewing the state assessment information, which included the 2002 Growth API, the 2002 Baseline API, the 11th Grade Students High School Exit Exam Results, the California English Language Development Test, the Physical Fitness Test, the Golden State Examination, the Assessments in Career Education, and the Spanish Assessment, a Basic Education Second Edition.

**OPEN REGULAR
SESSION**

Following the assessment report, the board took a short break and reconvened in open session at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Qualls lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION /
PROCLAMATIONS /
ACTION**

**RECOGNITION OF
ROYAL OAKS
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL TEACHERS**

Royal Oaks Principal, Liz Parker, reported that during winter break, Karen Chambers, Monica Rook, Ann Fulmer, and Dana Hight, four Royal Oaks Kindergarten teachers, wrote a grant sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Encl. No. 2). The teachers were recently advised that they had been awarded a \$10,000 Toyota TIME Grant. Mrs. Rook described the development of the grant by the four teachers. Three of the four teachers will attend the NCTM Conference in San Antonio, Texas, on April 9-13, 2003, and will be recognized as grant recipients.

**PUBLIC COMMENT
/ PUBLIC INTEREST
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DanLeppek, Redwood principal, introduced Mr. Charles Culbreth, representing Redwood's Visual and Performing Arts Department. Mr. Culbreth reported that Redwood was the only choral program that received an invitation from the CMEA or the ACDA to perform at a state convention. The group received acknowledgment for its performance last Friday. Mr. Culbreth said that it is the first time in many years that Redwood's choral department has been so recognized. He also reported that the Redwood Jazz Band, lead by Dennis Bettencourt, received straight superior ratings at the regional Jazz Festival in Tulare on February 27. He commended the group for sounding like a "college-level jazz band." The board members and Mr. Carrizosa received a copy of the CD of the performance. Mr. Culbreth invited the board and audience to Redwood tomorrow for two Visual and Performing Arts Capstone Assemblies. The first assembly will be from 10:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. and the second assembly will be from 11:25 a.m. – 12:35 p.m. Members of the drama, choral, and instrumental music departments will be performing and visual demonstrations by painters, sculptures and other visual art students will be presented. Invitations were also given for the all-school third annual dance program on Friday, March 28, and Saturday, March 29, at 7 p.m. at Redwood. The following week the Redwood Drama Department will be presenting "Our Town." Mr. Culbreth also reported that Golden West and Mt. Whitney students participated in the Golden State Choral Competition last Thursday and that both schools placed extraordinarily high.

Pam Russell, representing Goshen School, spoke regarding the elimination of the assistant principal position at the school. She said that the school was fortunate to have him and has been trying to figure out how to keep him. Mrs. Russell, as always, praised Principal, Marti Frolli, for his work with the school and community. She then expressed her thanks for everyone in education. Mrs. Russell then thanked Mr. Guerrero for deciding to stay on the board. She then spoke of Mr. Mike Huggins and the courage his memory gave her to address the board. In conclusion, Mrs. Russell told the board and audience that she was trying to raise money to save the school.

Mr. David Carmen, teacher at Green Acres Middle School and a member of the VUTA negotiating team, handed out information from CTA asking for a clarification of the funds that will be saved by eliminating CSR. Mr. Carmen indicated some discrepancy between the information from CTA and information previously shared by district staff. Mr. Carrizosa thanked Mr. Carmen for addressing the board. He said that the numbers that the board has been working with were developed through the district's budget analysis going back to January. The budget numbers were reviewed again in February at the board meeting of the 11th and the 25th. He said that staff has worked to make sure that the analysis has been accurate and specific to the actual teacher salaries in our district, number of classrooms in our district and the structure of CSR in the district. He said that it differs between the two options available with CSR. Mr. Carrizosa said that the district's Chief Financial Officer, Robert Gröeber, was available to sit down with Mr. Carmen and anyone else representing VUTA to give a complete explanation of how the analysis was done. Mr. Gröeber was in the audience and was directed to contact Mr. Carmen tomorrow.

Mr. James Peterson, a district parent and VUSD retiree, urged the board and district to work with CSEA to resolve the budget crisis with "as little pain as possible." He spoke of the seriousness with which classified employees "take their mission to serve students." Mr. Peterson asked that the budget cuts be spread equitably among everyone in the district. He then spoke of the elimination of the district warehouse and questioned the efficiency and cost-savings that would be realized from the district ordering supplies through Office Depot.

Mrs. Barbara Wauchope, a retired VUSD teacher, reported on a bill introduced to the State Senate about a month ago, SB 921, for universal single-payer healthcare. She said that the bill would provide choice, access for everyone, quality healthcare, cost controls, pharmaceuticals, a wonderful benefit package, and at the same time would save the state billions of dollars. For those interested in finding out more about the bill, she gave the website: www.sen.ca.gov. Mrs. Wauchope said that there is a state organization in Visalia called Healthcare for All, which meets the first Tuesday of every month. She invited everyone to attend the April 1 meeting at King Buffet in Visalia, at 6 p.m. where the group will review the bill.

Mrs. Sandy Baldwin, a first grade teacher at Conyer School, spoke regarding the impending budget cuts. She said that it was her belief that if all VUSD employees share in a specific percentage cut, regardless of position or salary, "the budget could be balanced without causing undue harm to any particular group."

Coy McDonald, Conyer Elementary School parent, shared her reasons for wanting to keep CSR in the district. She said that she does not want the budget to be balanced "on the back of a classified employee, a teacher, an administrator or a board member," but especially not "on the back of her child's education." Mrs. McDonald said that in a class of 30-32 students, there is not enough time for a teacher to give individualized attention to her child or other children. She asked that significant cuts be made in every area before cutting teaching positions and CSR.

Heather Harmon Sadler, executive director for Visalia Economic Development Corporation, spoke of her organization's partnership and support of VUSD, COS and our students. She spoke of the importance of maintaining CSR in the district. A number of members of the corporation were also present and shared how the private sector deals with increasing costs. Mrs. Sadler said that the VEDC is here to utilize every viable means to benefit our children who will be "the key to our future workforce and economic success."

Mr. Carmen asked to make a correction on the handout he previously provided the board. Mr. Gröeber had found the error with regard to the basic revenue limit listed as \$27 million+ on the handout. The correct amount is \$29 million+.

Mrs. Betsy See, speaking on behalf of a group of parents of students entering first grade this coming fall, expressed concern about the elimination of CSR and the potential negative impact on their children.

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

New Student
Representative
"Les Miserables"
Golden West and Mt.
Whitney Choirs

President Jones introduced Andrew Pipes, student representative to the board from Golden West High School. Mr. Pipes reported that the Golden West production of "Les Miserables" will be performed April 9, 10, 11 and 12. Tickets are \$7. Matinee tickets for Saturday's performance will be \$5. He said that Golden West was the first school west of the Mississippi to be given the rights to perform the play. The Golden West choir has finished its tour by performing at Point Loma University where the Golden State Choral Competition was held. Mt. Whitney's small chamber choir placed third out of 10 choirs and Golden West small choir placed second out of 10 choirs, and the Golden West large choir placed third out of all of the California schools performing at the competition. In conclusion, Mr. Pipes reported that on Friday, Golden West will be holding assemblies showcasing performing arts and outstanding students. Mr. Carrizosa welcomed Mr. Pipes to tonight's meeting.

Golden West
Assemblies for Student
Recognition

ACSA/TCSBA Annual
Spring Conference

Mr. Elder reported he had attended the ACSA/TCSBA Annual Spring Conference this past week. The topic was API, AYP and "No Child Left Behind." He said it was a very interesting discussion, but also resulted in a lot of questions. He asked Mr. Carrizosa to consider holding a study session on the "No Child Left Behind" law, possibly in May. He said that he is most interested in "the whole definition of a qualified teacher." Mr. Elder thanked tonight's speakers and said that he wanted them to know that they were "preaching to the choir" when it comes to having the best program for our students. He asked for all of us to be "unified" in finding a solution to save our programs and teachers. He shared his concern about being able to reinstate a program once it is eliminated.

Call for Unifying Efforts

Victor Villaseñor
Presentation

Mr. Guerrero also thanked tonight's speakers. He reported that he had attended the presentation by Victor Villaseñor. He said that he was a very good and articulate speaker.

<p>Senate Bills</p> <p>“Is it Good for the Children”</p>	<p>Mr. Guerrero further reported that he had been working with a group of people on a bill sponsored by Senator Orrin Hatch relative to amnesty for United States raised undocumented students. He said that he is also following a bill sponsored by Michael Firebaugh relative to extending the 30-day layoff for CSEA employees. He said that many people are being affected by layoffs. He read a personal statement relative to his request that the district “keep the perspective of our children in mind” when considering solutions to address the current budget crisis. He asked that the district begin to use the phrase <i>Is it Good for the Children?</i> “that will become the underlying barometer to our involvement or any contributions we make as a school district.”</p>
<p>Visit to Redwood Civics Class</p> <p>Maintaining CSR</p> <p>Cost Containment in Health Insurance</p>	<p>Mr. Lane thanked everyone for attending and commenting tonight. He reported that last week he had the opportunity to visit Jack Hart’s Civics Class at Redwood High School and appreciated his visit. Mr. Lane said that maintaining CSR was his top priority and that the way we will get there is with cost containment in the health insurance program. He said that he will not vote on any proposals that will put the district in the same position next year with having to send out layoff notices and having to go through the turmoil we are currently experiencing. He said that the district needs to establish a rational system for our health care benefits that will ensure the integrity of our educational mission. He called for negotiations to begin as soon as possible. He said that we need to come together around a solution for our children. He said that he is available to meet anytime to “get this thing done.”</p>
<p>Integrity of our Educational Mission</p> <p>Solution for our Children</p>	<p>Mr. Stephenson thanked everyone for their “passionate pleas and comments.” He expressed his “complete agreement” with Mrs. Baldwin’s previous comments. He spoke of the layoff notices that were sent out to 164 current district teachers two weeks ago. He spoke passionately of saving the jobs of the teachers. He called for all vested stakeholders in the district to come together now to begin negotiations. He said that he wants to save CSR, but that we have to work together to do it. He said that we must take action now to look at the solutions that will save our teachers and our programs. He agreed that health premiums were an area we need to look at to help find a solution to the budget crisis. He also stated that he would agree to look at any other viable alternatives that people want to present that will save jobs and programs in the district.</p>
<p>Saving Jobs of Teachers</p> <p>Save CSR</p> <p>Health Premiums</p>	<p>Mr. Qualls agreed that we all need to sit down and come up with solutions to help our students and district. He reported that he had helped with weighing in the implements at Saturday’s Golden West track meet. He again reported that he thought the joint city council VUSD board meeting was very successful. He spoke of his new position with the County of Tulare. He said that employees there pay for their health plan. He said that it is common now that people do contribute to their health benefits. He said that it is almost “quite necessary and time that we look at that possibility.”</p>
<p>Solutions to Help Students/District</p> <p>Golden West Track Meet</p> <p>Joint City/VUSD Meeting</p>	<p>Mrs. Pace reported that she had helped out at Mt. Whitney High School’s Vocational Career Fair last week. She said that it was great to see business and educational organizations come together to provide an opportunity for our students to start planning for their futures. She commended Mt. Whitney staff for putting on an excellent event. She also commended the</p>
<p>Mt. Whitney Voc Ed</p>	

Student Successes	student catering class at Mt. Whitney who provided food for the presenters. She said that the food looked wonderful and tasted great! She spoke of the success of our students in the many events in which they participate. She said that her daughter had participated at the San Diego Music Festival. She also commended our district's DECA students for receiving state awards this past week. She also mentioned Odyssey of the Mind students. She said that when we are all looking at the difficulties the district is facing that we do not forget "the great things" that are going on here with our kids, their teachers, parents and the supportive community that we have. Mrs. Pace also reported that she had attended the ACSA/TCSBA Conference this past week. She said that the information shared was frankly, "pretty depressing." She said that the group heard nothing good about the budget and then heard about the new "No Child Left Behind" law and its many requirements. Mrs. Pace said, however, that she sees a silver lining when she thinks about our supportive community. She commended all of VUSD staff and the work they do for our children. In conclusion, Mrs. Pace said that the way we can save jobs and programs is for all of us to make a small contribution and added that "health insurance is the way to go." She called for negotiations to begin immediately so that we can all work together to find a solution. She said that next year we do not want to be talking about cutting other programs or jobs.
DECA Students Award Odyssey of the Mind	
ACSA/TCSBA Conference	
Making a Small Contribution to Save Jobs and Programs	
DECA Conference	Mr. Jones also stated his appreciation for everyone's comments tonight. He spoke of Mt. Whitney and Golden West students attending the DECA Conference. With regard to a CD developed by the Mt. Whitney DECA students, Mr. Jones asked to have the students come and present their work at an upcoming board meeting. Mr. Jones then reported that he had attended a freshman baseball game between El Diamante and Redwood. With regard to a lack of seating for the event, Mr. Jones said that bleachers are on order. Mr. Jones also reported that he had met with Mr. Sorensen, El Diamante principal, and that Mr. Sorensen had a great idea to have murals painted, using the theme of the school, on some of the school's buildings during the next few years.
Freshman Baseball Game - El Diamante and Redwood Murals at El Diamante	
Restructure of Agenda	Mr. Carrizosa announced that tonight's agenda would be restructured. Item 9.1 will be presented following Item 10.4.

**STATUS
REPORT/PUBLIC
COMMENT
STATE CAPITOL
TRIP UPDATE**

Mr. Carrizosa reported that he, Dr. Fulmer and a contingent of educators traveled to the State Capitol to lobby local legislators (Encl. No. 4). He said that the group was able to have face-to-face meetings with Jackie Goldberg, Dean Florez, Sarah Reyes, Chuck Poochigian, John Vasconcellos, Carey Mazonni and Bill Maze. Mr. Carrizosa said that the information they received was consistently bleak. He said that a portion of the current year budget act has been signed by the governor with the debt that currently exists being deferred past June 30 and carried over to next year. The State has restated that it will not be sending reimbursements for the current year. Therefore, the approximate \$1.5 million our board already cut in centralized administration in the current year will be what will sustain the cash shortfall for the district at this time. The group asked the legislature to consider flexibility in

mandated regulations, to mix and match categorical funds, and for the governor and legislature to continue to look at block granting selected groups of some of the state categoricals which would allow districts some discretion in their use, and for flexibility in CSR. Mr. Carrizosa said that there is considerable disagreement between both sides of the legislature on what CSR revisions should look like and, therefore, it didn't appear there would be any success in the near future in legislation affecting CSR. He reported that a proposal made on behalf of Fresno Unified was an extension of the May 15 deadline, which would give districts more time before layoff notices became effective. As there was some reception to the idea of extending the May 15 deadline, Mr. Carrizosa is working with ACSA and Fresno Unified is working with CSBA and CTA to see if an emergency bill could be passed within the next 15-20 days to consider a one-time extension of the deadline. Mr. Carrizosa said that educators are realizing that the fiscal crisis will have to be resolved locally, which means meeting with employee groups to negotiate cost containment within their existing budgets. Mr. Carrizosa reviewed other ideas presented as possibilities for districts to address the budget crisis. He said that the group's final plea to the legislators was for "swift and decisive action."

VISALIA UNIFIED
HEALTH
INSURANCE
PROGRAM

Enclosure No. 5 was presented tonight as requested by the board at an earlier board meeting to bring more specific information regarding a cost analysis of health insurance. Mr. Carrizosa reminded everyone that this would be a cost analysis of potential cost-savings in health insurance changes and would be subject to negotiations. Mrs. Susan Cox lead a PowerPoint presentation on benefits provided VUSD employees and possible cost-containment strategies as included in Enclosure No. 5. Following the presentation and board discussion on the information presented, Mr. Jones called for public comment.

Mr. Bruce Nicotera, with Joanne Stores, a member of the Visalia Economic Development Corporation, reviewed his company's health insurance plans available to its employees.

Mr. Ken Oplinger, president of Visalia Chamber of Commerce, also reported on the health benefits plan provided employees of the Chamber. Mr. Oplinger also shared his personal comments regarding friends in the district who had received pink slips.

Karl Kildow, Redwood English teacher, and VUTA representative at Redwood, spoke of teachers he has talked with who have received pink slips--those who will be involuntarily transferred to other schools and those who were non-reelects. Mr. Kildow expressed his concern that it appears that everyone is focused on the "here and now" but not the future. He said that we are looking at a three-year shortfall. Mr. Kildow spoke of teachers receiving pink slips while administrative positions are being added. He suggested that one assistant principal from Redwood and one assistant principal from Mt. Whitney be sent to fill the positions at El Diamante. He said with fewer teachers at the elementary schools, he believes there should be fewer administrative positions. He questioned a proposal to increase coaching salaries while everyone else is being asked to sacrifice in some way. Mr. Kildow spoke of possible challenges facing the district in recruiting future teachers.

Coy McDonald spoke again and asked district teachers to consider making a financial sacrifice to help pay for health benefits in order to maintain CSR in the district. She spoke of

her efforts to help teachers in the district save their jobs because of the valuable job they perform. She asked that teachers begin negotiations and try to save teacher jobs by making health benefit choices.

Javier Solis, Holiday Inn general manager, member of the VEDC and district parent, spoke in support of maintaining CSR in the district. He then reviewed the health benefits offered to employees of Holiday Inn. In conclusion, Mr. Solis said that what he hears at tonight's meeting was the "community" wanting answers, action and to be unified in working through the budget crisis.

VUTA President, Fred Speckman, spoke of the work he has been doing with union members to try to save every teacher. He said that teachers have been willing to sacrifice their pay for the insurance benefits they have received. Mr. Speckman said that the group is waiting for insurance quotes to proceed. He read from a flyer inviting everyone to the Tuesday, April 1, meeting at King Buffet from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. to discuss SB 921 - Universal Healthcare Reform.

Lori Irvine, a teacher at Linwood Elementary School and recipient of a layoff notice, shared her perception of being a teacher. She asked that teachers not be asked to give up "one more dime." She expressed her concern that teachers are being portrayed as "the bad guys" and like they are "greedy." She said that teachers "are the good guys."

Mr. Jones challenged the bargaining units to present their interests so that negotiations could begin. Mrs. Van Anandel reported that a letter was received today from CSEA indicating that they are ready to begin negotiations and that they will present their interests at the April 8 board meeting. Mr. Jones asked if there was a possibility that the interests could be presented at an earlier date. Mr. Carrizosa answered that when the district receives a notice from the bargaining units that they are ready to present their interests, the district will immediately call for a meeting so that the "sunshining" period for the interests could begin. Mr. Jones asked Mrs. Van Anandel to see what she could do to have this happen. He then asked Mr. Speckman to report on the progress that VUTA is making with regard to presenting their interests. Mr. Speckman said that the association should also be ready to present its interests at the April 8 board meeting. Mr. Jones asked that cost containment in health insurance be the first topic of discussion when negotiations begin. Mrs. Van Anandel said that the insurance committee was notified that there will be a special meeting on Monday at 4 p.m. where all of the quotes and possible options received from health insurance providers will be given. Mr. Carrizosa said that the district would then know how close it came to the projected 18% increase in health costs. Mr. Jones asked that Mr. Carrizosa prepare and bring forward a resolution that would allow the district to rescind some of the layoff notices and program cuts based on the outcome of negotiations. Mr. Carrizosa said that staff would need to develop a priority order for restoring program cuts for board consideration. He said that there are laws that govern which CSR grades are added back first. The resolution will be presented at the April 8, 2003, board meeting and will establish a priority order for restoring program cuts contingent upon successful negotiations and any accomplished cost

savings. Mr. Jones again encouraged the negotiating teams to begin working with the district. In response to a statement by Mr. Stephenson regarding any decision made being fair and equitable, Mr. Carrizosa said that any agreement the district would reach would be consistent for all staff, including the board--anyone receiving district health benefits.

FOCUS ON STUDENT LEARNING

Presentation/Public
Comment/Board
Discussion

COMMUNITY FORUMS AND INPUT FOR 2003-04 DISTRICT GOALS

Following a five-minute recess, the board reconvened the meeting. Mr. Carrizosa introduced Vicki Stash, who served the district in its annual community-wide forums for district-wide goal setting and input (Encl. No. 3). Ms. Stasch gave a PowerPoint presentation and shared some of the summary findings gathered at the 10 forums. Mr. Carrizosa said that the current year goal revisions would be based on the prioritization from the community, which focused primarily around 4 goals. The information will now be taken to district principals for their input and will then be used to formulate revisions to the district's annual goals and objectives. These will be brought to the board for a first reading and input and then a second reading for board adoption.

NAMING OF NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Myron Sheklian presented a brief PowerPoint on the process that will be followed to name the two new elementary schools (Encl. No. 6). The district is attempting to get all community input by April 11. The Ad Hoc Committee will submit the recommendations to the board by mid-May. Mr. Sheklian highlighted some of Board Policy 7310, which specifically sets the process for naming a school. Students from feeder schools will be given an opportunity to submit names for the schools. Parents, staff and community can either send their suggestions to the district at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia, CA 93277, by telephone or by entering them on the district's web page (http://visalia.k12.ca.us/school_names.htm). It is important that anyone who submits a name indicate whether the name is for the northeast or northwest elementary school. Mr. Doug Bartsch will head the committee submitting the name to the board for the northwest school and Mr. Sheklian will head the committee submitting the name for the northeast school. The Ad Hoc Committees will be comprised of three students who reside in the new school's area, one teacher, one classified employee, one principal, three parents/guardians who reside in that area, two community members, one architect who is assigned to the project, and three school board members. The campaign to gather community input for naming the schools began on March 17 through community media resources. The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committees will be April 1. The second meeting is scheduled for April 22. The committees hope to make the recommendations to the board at the May 13, 2003 board meeting. Signs indicating the use of Measure G bonds in the construction of the two new schools will be placed at the sites.

CHARTER OAK SCHOOL REPORT

Mr. Rick Rodriguez reported on the voluntary closure of Charter Oak School by its board on March 13, 2003, effective March 21, 2003. Mr. Rodriguez said in talking with legal counsel, it was not necessary for our board to take action on the closing. However, as the

**ON VOLUNTARY
CLOSURE**

granting agency, the district has requested through correspondence that the school conduct a complete audit within the next 30 days. Mr. Rodriguez said that he has notified district principals and assistant principals that the district will be enrolling students from Charter Oak. District board policy will be followed with regard to the student placements. Mr. Rodriguez said that he would be sending a letter to the State Department of Education regarding the Charter Oak School Board's action to close the school. Mr. Carrizosa said that when the district receives the final audit of the school, we will seek final legal counsel on our behalf to determine any conclusive action that must be taken by our board.

**ROUTINE ACTION
Motion No. 164**

Dr. Fulmer said that on Routine Action Item 11.6 (Encl. No. 6) bids were received yesterday and that the recommendation was that the low bidder, Sequoia Construction, be awarded the bid at \$2,050,000. The bid tabulation sheet was provided the members at the board table tonight. On a motion by Qualls and second by Lane, the Routine Action Items were approved as follows:

11.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - March 1 through 15, 2003 (Encl. No. 8)
2. 2002-03 Budget Revision No. 08 (Encl. No. 9)
3. Change Order #1 - Elbow Elementary Modernization Project (Encl. No. 10)
4. Change Order #1 - Mt. Whitney High School All-Weather Track Project (Encl. No. 11)
5. Notice of Completion - Divisadero Middle School Modular Project (Encl. No. 12)
6. Approval of Bid #4452 - Royal Oaks, Fairview & Elbow Creek Modernization Project (Encl. No. 13)
7. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 14)
8. Resolution - Proposition 12 Funding Grant (Encl. No. 15)

11.2 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 16)

11.3 CURRICULUM

1. Middle School Course Outlines: Choirchimes - Beginning Band (Encl. No. 17)
2. High School Course Outline: Literature and Expression (P) (Formerly Creative Writing), Applied Multi-Media, Java Programming, Guitar and Environmental Science (Encl. No. 18)

11.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 19)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 20)
3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 21)
4. Certification of Updated Coach List for Spring Sports (Encl. No. 22)
5. Certification of Acceptance for 2002-03 Teaching as a Priority (TAP) Grant (Encl. No. 23)
6. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 24)

- 7. Rejection of Claim No. 030026 (Encl. No. 25) Rejection of Claim No. 030028 (Encl. No. 26)
 - 8. Rejection of Claim No. 030031 (Encl. No. 27)
- 11.5 SUPERINTENDENT
- 1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 25, 2003 (Encl. No. 28)

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS**

EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 165

On a motion by Lane and second by Qualls, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Expulsion Case No. 03- 54E, Case No. 03- 55E, and Case No. 03- 56E (Encl. No. 29) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

Review / Public Input /
Board Discussion /

ACTION

REVIEW NEW CSBA
PROPOSAL FOR BP
0520.2 - TITLE I
PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENT
SCHOOLS -
SECOND AND
FINAL READING
Motion No. 166

On a motion by Guerrero and second by Lane, Enclosures 30-33 were approved. Each of the policies were presented for a first reading at the March 11, 2003 board meeting. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

REVIEW REVISION
TO MANDATED
CSBA AR 4161.1,
4261.1, 4361.1 -
PERSONAL
ILLNESS/INJURY
LEAVE - SECOND
AND FINAL
READING
Motion No. 166

(Encl. No. 31)

REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO BP
5141.33 - HEAD LICE

(Encl. No. 32)

- SECOND AND
FINAL READING
Motion No. 166

REVIEW NEW CSBA (Encl. No. 33)
PROPOSAL FOR
MANDATED BP/AR
6173 - EDUCATION
FOR HOMELESS
CHILDREN -
SECOND AND
FINAL READING
Motion No. 166

SUPPLEMENTAL
RETIREMENT PLAN
Motion No. 167

At the request of the board, Robert Gröeber presented an offer for a supplemental retirement plan for classified staff (Encl. No. 34). The proposal was from Keenan and Associates. Mr. Gröeber said that the plan is similar to the plan previously approved by the board for certificated staff. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Pace, the item was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**RECONVENE IN
CLOSED SESSION**

At 10:50 p.m., the board reconvened in closed session to continue discussion of a closed session agenda item.

**RECONVENE IN
OPEN SESSION/
ADJOURNMENT**

The board reconvened in open session at 11:00 p.m. President Jones announced that no action was taken in the closed session. The meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be April 8, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Lane
Clerk

Stan A. Carrizosa
Superintendent/Secretary