

**Visalia Unified School District
Board of Education**

MINUTES

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The meeting of September 9, 2003, was called to order at 6:00 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	6:00	9:44	
Juan R. Guerrero	6:00	9:44	
Larry Jones	6:00	9:44	
Michael Lane	6:00	9:44	
Laura Pace	6:00	9:44	
Jim L. Qualls	6:00	9:44	
Robert Stephenson	6:00	9:44	
Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	6:00	9:44	
Martin Belmana, Student Representative	7:00	8:00	

Staff Members

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

CLOSED SESSION

President Jones identified the closed session agenda topics as follows:

1. RECOMMENDED REINSTATEMENTS
2. RECOMMENDED REVIEWS-CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION -
Government Code Section 54956.9 (c)
 1. Deciding Whether to Initiate Litigation - One Potential Case
4. COMPLAINTS OR CHARGES AGAINST A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
5. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

**RECONVENE IN
OPEN SESSION**

At 7:05 p.m., the board reconvened in open session. President Jones announced that no action was taken in closed session. Student Representative, Martin Belmana, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION/
PROCLAMATIONS/
ACTION**

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD THE VISALIA COMMUNITY STADIUM

Motion No. 34

The board received an update on donations the district is continuing to receive for the Visalia Community Stadium (Encl. No. 1). Since the last report on August 12, the district has received 11 additional donations. Dr. Fulmer read the names of the additional donors. To date, donations total \$90,420. On a motion by Qualls and second by Pace, the board gratefully received the donations. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENTS

No one came forward to address the board.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS / REQUESTS / SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student representative from Mt. Whitney, Martin Belmana, reported on recent events held for high school students—Freshman Orientation, Icebreaker Dance, with an attendance of over 2000, Club Rush Day and a Homecoming Rally. Redwood Homecoming will be next week. Redwood is planning a grand opening carnival for its new quad area. The Harvest Dance will be October 25. Planning has also begun for Cowhide. Golden West Winter Ball will be December 13.

Board member Stephenson spoke of an error in the scoring of the High School Exit Exam in Massachusetts which would have resulted in 95 students not graduating if the error had not been found. He also shared that next Saturday is the start of the Miracle Field Baseball League. Mr. Stephenson invited everyone to Friday evening's event where uniforms will be given out and a barbeque will be held. The game will be at 9 a.m. Saturday. The board members also reported that they had attended the morning session of the VUSD Staff Development Day, College Night last night, Back to School nights, a meeting with VUSD staff who provided reading materials on grading and standards, commended district staff and students on the professional way the power outage was handled at the Golden West, Valley Oak, Golden Oak and River Bend Complex, attending a football game between Golden West and Tulare Union, visiting various school sites, attending an event at Packwood School where the President of MECHA at COS spoke with the students, developing a youth conference in March involving school districts throughout Tulare County as well as surrounding counties, attending the State of the City Presentation sponsored by the City of Visalia, and attending the 90th birthday celebration for Manuel Hernandez. Mrs. Pace has been asked to attend the first GATE site meeting at one of our schools. Mr. Elder requested a report on the Independent Study program at Sequoia. Mr. Guerrero reported that Rich Guerrero from Victory Outreach is working on presenting some anti-gang theater presentations. He also reported on a \$1,000 scholarship being offered at www.proteusinc.org. Mr. Jones requested a report regarding the cost effectiveness of synthetic covers for athletic fields.

Mr. Carrizosa noted the topics of several reports that staff members are preparing to bring to the board.

PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEDICATION OF EASEMENT TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

Motion No. 35

The board approved the intention to dedicate an easement to Southern California Edison at the August 26, 2003 board meeting. The resolution was advertised in local newspapers. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Elder, the board approved the resolution authorizing the dedication (Encl. No. 2). Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT
LEARNING**
Presentation/Public
Comment/Board
Discussion/ACTION
(as applicable)

**2003-2004 DISTRICT-
WIDE ENROLLMENT
UPDATE**

Mrs. Van Andel, Mr. Sheklian, Mr. Bartsch and Mrs. Lambert shared in tonight's presentation of Enclosure No. 3, an update on district enrollment, a comparison of this year's combination classes to last year's and information on district traveling teams (Encl. No. 3). The figures presented were as of September 5th and were compared to last year on the same date. Enrollment this year has increased by 415 students and continues to grow. Projected enrollment for 2003-04 was 24,007. Actual enrollment is 24,040. Mrs. Van Andel said that projected enrollment figures determine the number of teachers allocated per site. Also included in tonight's packet of information was this year's teacher-student averages as compared to last year's.

Mr. Sheklian reviewed a two-year comparison of combination classes from last year to this year. He said that in general, combination classes are decreasing. Mr. Sheklian noted that combination classes are a necessary component in staffing our elementary schools, but stated that district staff does work to minimize the use of combination classes wherever possible. This year there is at least one combination class at each of our 20 elementary schools.

Mr. Bartsch explained the reason for combination classes and how classes are combined. He said that the district provides professional development at least once a year for teachers who have combination classes. Mr. Stephenson asked if a study had been done regarding the effectiveness of combination classes. Mrs. Lambert said that she will look into the possibility that one has been done.

Mrs. Lambert reported that the district has a traveling PE team for 4th through 6th grade students. There are typically two classes that go together averaging approximately 60 students. There are a total of 10 traveling PE teachers.

**REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO BP
0520.2 - TITLE 1
PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENT
SCHOOLS - FIRST
READING**

A series of board policies that have gone through the Board Policy Committee were reviewed for a first reading. Mr. Carrizosa said that this series of policy recommendations starts to bring the policies into alignment with the new No Child Left Behind legislation. Enclosure No. 4 was a recommendation to define what Adequate Yearly Progress means and offers definitions on some of the key terms in the legislation. The policy also addresses supporting Special Education Students and Limited English Proficient Students.

**REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO BP
4112.2 -
CERTIFICATION -
FIRST READING**

Enclosure No. 5 referenced the need and requirement of "Highly Qualified Teachers," and the time frame for school districts to attain these teachers in all Title 1 schools by 2005-06. It also sets forth the regulations revising the sections on emergency teaching and specialist permit credentials and brings current policy into alignment with the regulations adopted by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

**REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO BP
4222 - TEACHER
AIDES/PARA-
PROFESSIONALS-
FIRST READING**

Enclosure No. 6 included the requirements being set forth for certification and qualifications, the duties of instructional aids and sets forth those requirements for para-professionals under No Child Left Behind.

REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO
MANDATED BP/AR
5116.1 -
INTRADISTRICT
OPEN
ENROLLMENT -
FIRST READING

Enclosure No. 7 included the notification requirements for the district to follow to notify parents when their child is attending an underperforming school and brings the policy into alignment with the No Child Left Behind legislation. The legislation provides students an opportunity to choose a school other than the performance improvement school they are attending. This transfer is contingent upon seats available in the classroom at our sites according to the staffing ratio set by the district. The potential transportation costs for these students will be paid for by the district.

REVIEW STAFF
REVISION TO BP
6146.1 - HIGH
SCHOOL
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS -
FIRST READING

The Board Policy included in Enclosure No. 8 was a review of high school graduation requirements. The policy is now aligned with the changes by the state in dates and times set for standards of proficiency in the High School Exit Exam requirement.

REVIEW REVISION
TO BP 6146.4 -
DIFFERENTIAL
GRADUATION AND
COMPETENCY
STANDARDS FOR
STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES -
FIRST READING

Enclosure No. 9 reflected the change in the year of implementation of the High School Exit Exam as set by the state.

ROUTINE ACTION
Motion No. 36

Board members pulled Items 9.4.-2 (Encl. No. 21) and 9.5.-3 (Encl. No. 24) for further discussion. On a motion by Lane and second by Stephenson, the remaining items were approved as follows:

9.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. 2003-04 Budget Revision No. 03 (Encl. No. 10)
2. Change Order #3 - Northeast Elementary School (Encl. No. 11)
3. Change Order #6 - Northwest Elementary School (Encl. No. 12)
4. Notice of Completion - Conyer Elementary Modernization Project (Encl. No. 13)
5. Notice of Completion - Elbow Elementary Modernization Project (Encl. No. 14)
6. Notice of Completion - Veva Blunt Modernization Project (Encl. No. 15)
7. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 16)

9.2 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, Elementary

1. SCICON Day Contract for Fifth Grade (Encl. No. 17)
2. SCICON Week Contract for Sixth Grade (Encl. No. 18)

9.3 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, Elementary and 7-12/Adult

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

9.4 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Memorandum of Understanding: California State University, Fresno, Foundation and National Science Foundation "STEPSS" Project Through Visalia Unified School District (Encl. No. 20)
2. High School Course Outlines: Hip-Hop and Advanced Dance (Encl. No. 21)

- 9.5 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 - 1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 22)
 - 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 23)
 - 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 24)
 - 4. Certification of Coach List for Fall Sports (Encl. No. 25)
- 9.6 SUPERINTENDENT
 - 1. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of August 19, 2003 (Encl. No. 26)

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Motion No. 37 Mr. Guerrero expressed his support of having Richard Santana make a presentation to our students as noted on the consultant request enclosure (Encl. No. 24). Mr. Elder also commended Mr. Phillip White and the work he does. Mr. White was also listed on the consultant request enclosure. He will work with the district's STEPSS program. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Stephenson, the board approved all of the consultant requests included in this enclosure. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Motion No. 38 Mr. Stephenson explained that he had pulled Item 9.4-2 (Encl. No. 21) because he had gotten a call from a parent regarding the course outline included in this enclosure. He asked for further clarification of the course and units earned in the course.

A parent expressed his confusion as to what the eligibility is for the two dance courses as part of fulfilling a PE requirement. A lengthy discussion took place with Mrs. Lambert explaining the process for reviewing course outlines prior to bringing them for board action. She also explained the requirements for being enrolled in the dance classes under consideration. She thanked the parent for his comments and said that a group will be reviewing graduation requirements and will consider his comments relative to the dance courses. Principal Lepek also provided the board with background relative to developing courses that fit into the PE program as an elective, not the initial core program. Mrs. Pace asked that the district consider making it a facilities priority to offer a dance program at all of our district high schools. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Guerrero, the item was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS
REINSTATEMENTS**
Motion No. 39

On a motion by Lane and a second by Guerrero, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reinstatements Case No. 04-07 R, Case No. 04-08 R, Case No. 04-09 R, Case No. 04-10 R, Case No. 04-11 R, Case No. 04-12 R, Case No. 04-13 R, Case No. 04-14 R, and Case No. 04-15 R (Encl. No. 27) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**REVIEWS-
CONTINUED
EXPULSIONS**
Motion No. 40

On a motion by Stephenson and second by Lane, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reviews-Continued Expulsion Case No. 04-03 RCE, Case No. 04-04 RCE, Case No. 04-05 RCE and Case No. 04-06 RCE (Encl. No. 28) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA
Review / Public Input /
Board Discussion /
ACTION (as
applicable)
**PROPOSED
PROCEDURES FOR
PROPERTY
ACQUISITION**

Enclosure No. 29 was a second look at a process developed to identify and negotiate the acquisition of property for school sites. Dr. Fulmer reviewed the procedures presented for discussion at the August 26 board meeting. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Lane, the proposed procedures for property acquisition were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Motion No. 41

**MEASURE G
EXPENDITURE
REPORT**

Dr. Mark Fulmer lead the report on expenditure of Measure G Funds, State Bond Funds and Developer Fees for major facility improvements and new school construction projects in the district from 1999 through 2004 (Encl. No. 30). Through the use of these combined funds, a total of \$96.7 million in new facilities/facility improvements and property acquisition have been realized in the district. Dr. Fulmer reviewed the list of projects included in this enclosure. He said that 6 percent, or \$6,568,289 of the Measure G program funds were used to acquire new school sites; 68 percent, or \$65,872,920 of the Measure G program funds were used for new construction projects; 15 percent, or \$23,943,772 was dedicated to modernization projects; and \$395,615 or one-half of one percent of the Measure G funds were expended for the issuance of the bond. Mrs. Patty Rohman reported on district modernization projects she supervised this summer as well as the initiation of construction of the two new elementary schools. Mrs. Rohman oversaw the modernization of over 140 classrooms in 40 working days.

**APPROVAL OF 2002-
03 UNAUDITED
ACTUALS
Motion No. 42**

Mr. Robert Gröeber presented a report on the 2002-03 unaudited actuals and where the district ended fiscal year 2002-03 (Encl. No. 31). He lead the board through the attachments included with this enclosure. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Pace, the enclosure was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried. The district will now submit the entire packet to the county. It then becomes the district's baseline for external auditors when they review the district books.

Before adjourning the meeting, Mr. Jones encouraged his fellow board members to attend the Economic Development Corporation Breakfast at the Holiday Inn on September 26. The Superintendent will be speaking at this event.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be September 23, 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 Lane
Clerk

Stan A. Carrizosa
Superintendent/Secretary