

**Visalia Unified School District  
Board of Education**

**MINUTES**

**OPENING BUSINESS** The meeting of September 23, 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	5:30	11:00	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	11:00	
Stephen Wilson, Student Representative	7:00	9:20	
Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	5:30	11:00	

**Staff Members**

Mark Fulmer, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Educational 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:

- 1.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS
- 1.2 RECOMMENDED REVIEWS-CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
- 1.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
- 1.4 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
  1. VUTA
  2. CSEA
  3. Management

**RECONVENE IN**

**OPEN SESSION**

**EARLY BIRD STUDY**

**SESSION/ACTION**

**BOND MEASURE  
OPTIONS AND BOND  
PLAN REVIEW**  
Motion No. 43

Jonathan Edwards from Government Financial Strategies inc. led the presentation on a potential district bond measure (Encl. No. 1). He reviewed the Facilities Advisory Committee's recommendations, talked about bonds and property taxes, looked at the remaining Measure G tax levies, reviewed some bond sizing along with bond structure alternatives, including an overview of the advantages and disadvantages of each, and concluded with next steps that the board would take in placing the measure on the ballot. Following discussion of the information provided tonight, on a motion by Qualls and second by Stephenson, the board unanimously accepted the committee's recommendation to authorize district staff to move forward with a 15-year, fully- amortized bond structure. The shorter bond payment structure will save taxpayers over \$13 million in interest compared to a 25-year bond for the same loan amount. A 55 percent voter approval will be required to pass the bond.

**OPEN REGULAR  
SESSION**

The board reconvened the regular session at 7:12 p.m. No action was reported from Closed Session. Mr. Guerrero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC  
RECOGNITION/  
PROCLAMATIONS/  
ACTION**

**ACCEPTANCE OF  
DONATION FOR EL  
DIAMANTE MURALS**  
Motion No. 44

Enclosure No. 2 was acceptance of the first in a series of donations from a group interested in supporting the cost of the inaugural murals at El Diamante High School. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Lane, the board accepted the donations totaling \$2000. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**HISPANIC HERITAGE  
MONTH -  
SEPTEMBER 15 TO  
OCTOBER 15, 2003**  
Motion No. 45

Clerk, Michael Lane, read a proclamation setting September 15 to October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month (Encl. No. 3). On a motion by Stephenson and second by Guerrero, the proclamation was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**CHARACTER  
EDUCATION MONTH  
- OCTOBER 2003**  
Motion No. 46

Clerk Lane read a resolution recognizing October 2003 as Character Education Month (Encl. No. 4). On a motion by Qualls and second by Elder, the resolution was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**GENERAL AGENDA**  
Review / Public Input /  
Board Discussion /  
**ACTION** (as applicable)

TULARE COUNTY  
YOUTH CORPS -  
MEMO OF UNDER-  
STANDING

Motion No. 47

Item 13.1 (Encl. No. 23) was moved to this point in the meeting. Mr. Jim McDonnell, VUSD Director, Maintenance and Operations, introduced guests from the Tulare County Youth Corps and CSET youth who have been involved in a pilot recycling program with the district since of April 2003. Enclosure No. 23 was an agreement to expand the services of CSET to assist district grounds and maintenance staff. The agreement will take effect October 1, 2003 and will end on June 30, 2004. On a motion by Pace and second by Guerrero, the agreement was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Principal, Drew Sorensen, read a statement regarding the death of El Diamante High School Student, Adam Penton. Services for Adam will be Friday at 12 Noon at First Assembly of God. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made at the Bank of Visalia in Adam's name to assist Valley Children's Hospital's Ronald McDonald House. Seven of Adam's organs were donated to help other families.

**PUBLIC COMMENT  
/ PUBLIC INTEREST  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A parent spoke regarding his concern for students who have sensitive respiratory conditions who are required to participate in outside activities when the air quality is reported as poor. Superintendent Carrizosa said that the current process for reporting air quality and communication of that information to district staff will be reviewed.

**STATUS REPORT/  
PUBLIC COMMENT**  
FISCAL YEAR 2003-  
04 STATE BUDGET  
UPDATE

Robert Gröeber presented an update on the 2003-04 state budget and potential impacts on the district (Encl. No. 5). He reported that the district still has a deficit in the 2003-04 budget that will have to be considered in 2004-05. Mr. Gröeber said that the legislature has ended its session and that hundreds of bills were passed onto the Governor for his consideration. The Governor has until October 12 to act on the bills. The next budget update to the board on October 28 will include a list of education-related bills that have been passed or vetoed. He reported that the recall for governor will move forward on October 7.

Mrs. Van Andel reported on Assembly Bill 1207, an early retirement incentive program, signed by the Governor on September 4, 2003. She then explained the two options available to the district for certificated staff under CalSTRS. The first option, often referred to as the Golden Handshake, will become permanent on January 1, 2004. The estimated cost for option 1 is \$36,000 per participant. The second option, the "2 + 2" has a window period, January 3, 2004 through December 31, 2004. The estimated cost for option 2 is \$108,000 per participant. In order for a district to participate in this incentive, the district must certify that the program participation, depending on the option it chooses, would result in cost-savings. An employee must be 55 years of age or older, with at least five years of experience or 50 years of age or older with 30 years of experience. VUSD has 297 certificated staff that are 55 years or older.

AB 457 (CalPERS) is an early retirement for classified employees. It has passed the legislature, but has not yet been signed by the governor. If signed by the governor, it would grant two years of additional credit service to classified employees, or the Golden Handshake. It is estimated that the cost of implementing this program could be very expensive, up to 59% of the employee's ending salary. There are currently 47 VUSD classified employees that would be eligible for this program.

**FOCUS ON  
STUDENT  
LEARNING**

Presentation/ Public

Comment/ Board

Discussion/ ACTION

(as applicable)

**REPORT ON VISALIA  
ADULT SCHOOL**

Adult School Principal, Caroline Casida, presented an overview of the Visalia Adult School program and the impact of state budget cuts on the program (Encl. No. 6). The Visalia Adult School was established in 1947 and is one of California's largest adult schools. The school is WASC accredited. Most classes operate 7:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. There were 249 Adult School graduates in 2002-03. The main campus is only one of 28 sites that offer adult school classes throughout the community. The Adult School has also opened a childcare facility at the main campus.

**AB 2042 BEGINNING  
TEACHER SUPPORT  
AND ASSESSMENT  
(BTSA) INDUCTION  
PROGRAM**

Motion No. 48

Director of Staff Development, Terryl Garrett, and Program Supervisor, Ron Howerton, presented a report on the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Program for Visalia (BTSA) (Encl. No. 7). The BTSA program was implemented in VUSD in 1998. Assembly Bill 2042 was passed in 1998 and authorized a new system for teachers to move from their preliminary credential to their professional credential. VUSD has rewritten its program to align with the California Standards for Teaching Profession and the State adopted Academic Content and Performance Standards for students. The California Department of Education and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing has approved the program document. Final approval of the document is scheduled at the State Board of Education meeting on October 2, 2003. On a motion by Qualls and second by Stephenson, Enclosure No. 7 was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

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

Student representative, Stephen Wilson, reported that Golden West is looking forward to Homecoming which will be held on October 17. They will be playing Hanford. The students at Golden West are busy planning a pep assembly in preparation for their football game against Mt. Whitney this Friday. The Mt. Whitney Interact Club is promoting a "Relay for Life Team" in support of the Cancer Fun Run to help find cures for cancer. The Mt. Whitney Drama Department is preparing for their "One Acts" Presentation on October 1, 2 and 4. Mt. Whitney held Back to School Night on September 17 and their Homecoming Game last Friday. The school has also held their Academic Award Night and is currently working on

plans for the Harvest Dance and Cowhide Game. El Diamante's girls' cross-country team won the Sanger Invitational on Friday; the JV Water Polo Team won the Clovis Water Polo Tournament beating out Buchanan, Clovis East and Clovis West. Redwood held Back to School Night last night. Students are busy working on preparations for Homecoming—the theme is “Miss USA.” Redwood students are looking forward to seeing their Alumni in attendance. The Cancer Run will be this Saturday and Sunday and all four high schools have students participating in the event. Redwood students are looking forward to Cowhide. In conclusion, Mr. Wilson reported that the United Student Association of Visalia met for the first time last night for the 2003-04 school year. The next USAV meeting is scheduled for October 6.

Board members reported on their visits to our schools, asked for a moment of silence for the two students who died in our district in the last two weeks, the possibility of designing a program, perhaps through our adult school, for underachieving students interested in vocational education classes, attending the Superintendent's Resource Development Committee meeting, the recognition of Ken Oplinger, who is leaving the Visalia Chamber of Commerce for a position in Washington State, a fund raising event next Monday sponsored by the Visalia Education Foundation, called the “Showcase of the Bands,” which will be held at 7 p.m. at the Centex/Mineral King Bowl, speaking at the Mt. Whitney Academic Awards Night, and plans to attend Golden West Back to School Night tomorrow night. Mr. Lane asked for a followup of the impacts on the proposed VUSD Transportation facility following last night's City Planning Commission's condition placed on their approval of the facility. Mr. Stephenson expressed his appreciation of the district's follow-through on board members' requests for reports to the board. Mrs. Pace commended district staff for what she has seen as a renewed effort in our district to ensure that every child will succeed and learn. Mr. Jones thanked district staff for the support they give in keeping our kids “close” and “going in the right direction.”

Superintendent Carrizosa thanked Drew Sorensen and Judy Walston for their management of the crises at their two school sites this past two weeks. He then announced that as we approach the upcoming elections, he had provided the board and public copies of a County Counsel advisory on political activity in public schools, rules for school bond measures and for candidate elections.

**ROUTINE ACTION**  
Motion No. 49

On a motion by Guerrero and second by Lane, the Routine Action Items were approved as follows:

11.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - August 16 through September 15, 2003 (Encl. No. 8)
2. 2003-04 Budget Revision No. 04 (Encl. No. 9)
3. Resolution Approving the Purchase and Lease/Purchase Agreement of Specific Grounds Equipment (Encl. No. 10)

4. Change Order #3 - 2003 Relocatables Project (Encl. No. 11)
5. Notice of Completion - Crowley, Crestwood, and Fairview Elementary Relocatable Projects (Encl. No. 12)
- 11.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, 7-12/Adult
  1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 13)
- 11.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
  1. MOU for Mathematics and Reading Professional Development Program - AB466 Between Tulare County Office of Education and Visalia Unified School District (Encl. No. 14)
  2. MOU for the Student Teaching Program Between Fresno Pacific University Graduate School and Visalia Unified School District (Encl. No. 15)
- 11.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
  1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 16)
  2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 17)
  3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 18)
  4. Certification of Coach List for Fall Sports (Updated) (Encl. No. 19)
- 11.5 SUPERINTENDENT
  1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 26, 2003 (Encl. No. 20)

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
PANEL RECOM-  
MENDATIONS**

EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 50

On a motion by Qualls and second by Pace, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Expulsion Case No. 04-10 E and Case No. 04-11 E (Encl. No. 21) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

REVIEWS-  
CONTINUED  
EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 51

On a motion by Stephenson and second by Elder, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reviews-Continued Expulsions Case No. 04-07 RCE (Encl. No. 22) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**GENERAL AGENDA**

Review / Public Input /  
Board Discussion /  
ACTION (as applicable)

BID #4483 -  
REDWOOD HIGH  
SCHOOL ACCESS  
COMPLIANCE  
Motion No. 52

Enclosure No. 24 was a request for approval of a bid to implement removal of barriers that impede access to parts of Redwood High School and Centex/Mineral King Bowl by physically challenged individuals. On a motion by Qualls and second by Elder, the bid to Oral E. Micham, apparent low bidder, was awarded. State Modernization School Bond and Measure G Funds will fund the \$216,000 project. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISION TO BP  
0520.2 - TITLE I  
PROGRAM  
IMPROVEMENT  
SCHOOLS - SECOND  
AND FINAL  
READING  
Motion No. 53

Superintendent Carrizosa reviewed for a second reading each of the Board Policies included in Agenda Items 13.3 through 13.8 (Encl. Nos. 25 through 30). On a motion by Pace and second by Guerrero, the policies were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISED BP 4112.2 -  
CERTIFICATION -  
SECOND AND FINAL  
READING  
Motion No. 53

Enclosure No. 26

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISION TO BP  
4222 - TEACHER  
AIDES/  
PARAPROFES-  
SIONALS - SECOND  
AND FINAL  
READING  
Motion No. 53

Enclosure No. 27

REVIEW CSBA  
REVISION TO  
MANDATED BP/AR  
5116.1 -  
INTRADISTRICT  
OPEN ENROLLMENT  
- SECOND AND  
FINAL READING  
Motion No. 53

Enclosure No. 28

REVIEW STAFF  
REVISION TO BP  
6146.1 - HIGH  
SCHOOL  
GRADUATION

Enclosure No. 29

REQUIREMENTS -  
SECOND AND FINAL  
READING  
Motion No. 53

REVIEW REVISION      Enclosure No. 30  
TO BP 6146.4 -  
DIFFERENTIAL  
GRADUATION AND  
COMPETENCY  
STANDARDS FOR  
STUDENTS WITH  
DISABILITIES -  
SECOND AND FINAL  
READING  
Motion No. 53

**CONTINUE CLOSED**      At 9:20 p.m., the board reconvened into Closed Session to continue discussion of the closed  
**SESSION**                      session agenda items.

**ADJOURNMENT**              At 11 p.m., the board reconvened in open session and announced that no action had been  
taken in the reconvened closed session. The meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING**              The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be October 14, 2003, at 5:30 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 Lane  
Clerk

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Stan A. Carrizosa  
Superintendent/Secretary