

**Visalia Unified School District  
Board of Education**

**MINUTES**

**OPENING BUSINESS** The February 10, 2004 board meeting was opened at 5:30 p.m. by President Lane, in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Office Complex, 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia. A quorum of the board was present.

**ATTENDANCE**

	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Leave</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Rodney Elder	5:30	10:22	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	10:22	
Larry Jones	7:00	10:22	
Michael Lane	5:30	10:22	
Donna Martin	5:30	10:22	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	10:22	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	10:22	

Kaitlin Morgan, Student Representative X

Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent 5:30 10:15

**Staff Members**

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

President Lane identified the closed session topics listed below:

1. RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS
2. RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
3. RECOMMENDED REVIEW-CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
4. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RELEASE/REASSIGNMENT
5. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
  1. Agency Negotiator: Kay Van Anandel
  2. Employee Organization
    1. VUTA
    2. CSEA
    3. Management
6. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
  1. Superintendent's Mid-year Progress Report

**RECONVENE IN  
OPEN SESSION**

The board reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m. President Lane announced that no action had been taken in closed session.

Mr. Elder lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC  
RECOGNITION/  
PROCLAMATIONS/  
ACTION**

**STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARDS**

Students receiving outstanding achievement awards (Encl. No. 1) were: Paul Finch (Industrial Technology) and David Roldan (USAV Winter) from Mt. Whitney. Christine Sherwood, from Mt. Whitney, was recognized for receiving the USAV Winter Award. Miss Sherwood was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Also recognized from Redwood, was Jose Moran (Industrial Technology), Katrina Murillo (USAV Winter) and Tyler Hanson (USAV Winter); Marcos Munoz (USAV Winter) and Cassandra Rico (USAV Winter) from Golden West; Kristy Loza (USAV Winter) and Jacob Chand (USAV Winter) from Sequoia; Linda Pho euth (Overall Achievement) from Sequoia was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Also recognized were Lyssa Owen (USAV Winter) and Luke McClurg (USAV Winter) from El Diamante; and Ralph Diaz (Overall Achievement) from Charter Alternatives Academy.

**ACCEPTANCE OF  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
TOWARD THE  
GROPETTI  
AUTOMOTIVE -  
VISALIA  
COMMUNITY  
STADIUM**

Motion No. 136

On a motion by Qualls and second by Elder, the board gratefully accepted additional community donations to the Gropetti Automotive - Visalia Community Stadium (Encl. No. 2). Ayes: all. Motion carried. Total monetary donations now amount to \$166,640 with pledges of materials and supplies amounting to \$75,950. To date, total contributions amount to \$242,590.

**ACCEPTANCE OF  
DONATIONS FOR EL  
DIAMANTE MURALS**  
Motion No. 137

Superintendent Carrizosa reported that an additional donation of \$1,000 was received toward the cost of the inaugural murals for El Diamante High School (Encl. No. 3). To date, a group of local attorneys/parents have pledged a total of \$5,000 toward the murals. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Martin, the board accepted the additional donation. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT /  
PUBLIC INTEREST  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**FISCAL YEAR 2003-  
04 STATE BUDGET  
UPDATE AND  
BUDGET SAVINGS  
PROCESS REVIEW  
FOR 2004-05**

Prior to Mr. Gröeber's report, Superintendent Carrizosa announced that a revised copy of tonight's report was available on the back table. Mr. Gröeber continued with an update regarding the state budget which included information received from the state on February 3 (Encl. No. 4). Final budget discussions will begin following the results of the March 2 election and the passage or non-passage of Propositions 57 and 58. The district continues to "plan for the worst" and "hope for the best," and will adjust the plan based on what comes out of the state budget following the March 2 election. Superintendent Carrizosa informed

the board that a preliminary analysis of proposed cost-savings for next year in centralized administrative services will come for board discussion on February 24. The board also set a study session for March 3 to consider issues that may affect the district budget and legal timelines for possible personnel actions following the outcome of the March 2 election.

CALIFORNIA  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEE  
ASSOCIATION,  
CHAPTER 83  
PROPOSAL FOR  
NEGOTIATIONS,  
2004-2005

Jim Pitkin, Director of HRD, reported that the California School Employee Association's initial contract proposal will be available for review in the Office of the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development until the February 24, 2004 board meeting. No CSEA representatives were present to present the group's proposal for negotiations. A public hearing will be held at the February 24 meeting and the public will be allowed to comment on the proposal submitted by CSEA. The board will then consider adopting the initial contract proposal.

**BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS/SUPER-  
INTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Board members reported on attending the Redwood and Green Acres Plays and commended students and staff for the outstanding performances. Mrs. Martin commended district staff for preparing for a "typhoon" with regard to the district budget, but added that the outcome may not be "so bad." Further reports included participating in the Business/Education Connection and working with senior classes at Golden West to help students prepare resumes and go through a job interview, judging district science projects today, attending a YMCA event recognizing volunteer, Ross Irving, and YMCA Man of the Year, Stan Carrizosa, and various school site visits. Mr. Carrizosa reported that he had attended Albertson's Grand Opening ceremony today. He thanked Neva Wright, district Health and Nutritional Services staff, for a partnership grant received from Albertson's in the amount of \$5,000 to sponsor the "Walk Through California" fitness project in our elementary schools. He also thanked Shannon Darling, Times-Delta reporter, for a recent article on the work that is being done to get funding for the community pool complex that is included in the Measure P Bond. Mr. Carrizosa reported that a bill is being resurrected from November 2003 to reauthorize the use of joint use facilities monies. The proposed bill will broaden the description of the facilities for which the funds can be used. The November 2003 bill limited the use of joint facility funds to gymnasiums, libraries and multi-purpose rooms. He said that the opportunity for the district to earn matching money for the project is now greater.

**FOCUS ON  
STUDENT  
LEARNING**

Presentation/Public  
Comment/Board  
Discussion/ACTION (as  
applicable)

2004-05 SCHOOL  
CALENDAR  
Motion No. 138

Enclosure No. 6 was a second opportunity for the board to consider the School Calendar for 2004-05. The calendar featured a three-week winter break, a start date of August 18 and an end date of June 8 for students. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Qualls, the board approved the calendar as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**COMITÉ, ENGLISH  
LEARNER REVIEW**

Dr. Craig Wheaton presented the preliminary report from the January 27-30, 2004 Comité review. Two reviewers visited four district schools and interviewed two principals from other district schools during this period. As a result of a coordinated compliance review in the spring of 2002, the district was referred to the Comité, or English Learner monitoring process, which began in October 2002. Dr. Wheaton reported on the work that has taken place in the district to address the items where the district was found to be out of compliance in the English Learner Program. As a result of the visit this January, the district has been completely released from Comité for our elementary schools. The district was commended for the efforts that have been made to address the three items that remain—one in 9-12, one district-wide and one in grades 7-12. Dr. Wheaton reviewed the three remaining items where the Comité wants to “see the system roll out further.” When the written report arrives from Comité, the district will reply with a specific action plan on how we are going to address the remaining items. A return visit is tentatively scheduled for the team in the fall of 2004.

**SCHOOLWIDE TITLE  
I PLAN: CONYER,  
CRESTWOOD,  
ELBOW CREEK, MT.  
VIEW ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOLS AND LA  
JOYA, VALLEY OAK  
MIDDLE SCHOOLS  
Motion No. 139**

On a motion by Stephenson and second by Elder, the board approved the Schoolwide Title I plans for Conyer, Crestwood, Elbow Creek, Mt. View Elementary Schools and La Joya and Valley Oak Middle Schools (Encl. No. 8). Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION IN  
FAVOR OF STATE  
PROPOSITIONS 55,  
57 AND 58  
Motion No. 140**

On a motion by Qualls and second by Martin, the board approved a resolution supporting Propositions 55, 57 and 58 (Encl. No. 9). Passage of the three propositions will have a favorable impact on education and the district budget. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ROUTINE ACTION  
Motion No. 141**

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

- 8.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
  - 1. Warrant List - January 16 through January 23, 2004 (Encl. No. 10)
  - 2. 2003-04 Budget Revision No. 11 (Encl. No. 11)
  - 3. Change Order #3 - Mt. Whitney High School Infrastructure Project (Encl. No. 12)
  - 4. Change Order #8 - Oak Grove (Northwest) Elementary School (Encl. No. 13)
- 8.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, K-6; 7-12/Adult
  - 1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 14)

- 8.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
  - 1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Mathematics and Reading Professional Development Program - AB466 Between Tulare County Office of Education and Visalia Unified School District (Encl. No. 15)
  - 2. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 16)
- 8.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
  - 1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 17)
  - 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 18)
  - 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 19)
  - 4. Certification of Coach List for Spring Sports (Encl. No. 20)
- 8.5 SUPERINTENDENT
  - 1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 16, 2003 (Encl. No. 21)
  - 2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 13, 2004 (Encl. No. 22)

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
PANEL RECOM-  
MENDATIONS/  
ACTION**

EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 142

On a motion by Elder and second by Qualls, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Expulsion Case No. 04-57 E, Case No. 04-58 E, Case No. 04-59 E and Case No. 04-60 E (Encl. No. 23) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

SUSPENDED  
EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 143

On a motion by Qualls and second by Martin, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Suspended Expulsion Case No. 04-17 SE, Case No. 04-18 SE, Case No. 04-19 SE and Case No. 04-20 SE (Encl. No. 24) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

REVIEWS-  
CONTINUED  
EXPULSIONS  
Motion No. 144

On a motion by Stephenson and second by Elder, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reviews-Continued Expulsion Case No. 04-12 RCE (Encl. No. 25) were approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**GENERAL AGENDA**

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

AB 1207 STRS  
“GOLDEN  
HANDSHAKE/2+2”:  
REVIEW AND  
RECOMMENDA-  
TIONS  
Motion No. 145

Mr. Robert Gröeber reviewed AB1207, STRS legislation which will allow districts to offer one of two different retirement enhancements, if a cost-savings can be demonstrated (Encl. No. 26). The traditional “Golden Handshake,” the +2 option, would offer employees two years of service credit. STRS has estimated that the cost for this program is \$35,000 per participant. There is no sunset on the +2, so each year the board can authorize that applications be taken for retirement to determine if there would be a cost-savings to the district. The 2+2 option offers two years of service credit and the equivalent of two years of age credit. STRS estimated this program to cost \$105,000 per participant. The window

on the 2+2 option will close on January 1, 2005. Both programs have post-retirement employee restrictions, which Mr. Gröeber explained. To offer either of the programs, the district must demonstrate a cost-savings which must be validated by an independent auditor. Through a PowerPoint presentation and a template that all school districts are using to calculate the savings, Mr. Gröeber demonstrated a possible savings with the “Golden Handshake,” but no savings with the 2+2 option.

On a motion by Stephenson and second by Guerrero, the board rejected the 2+2 incentive plan per the mandate of AB1207 that savings is not occurring. Ayes: all. Motion carried. The board then authorized district staff to continue to move forward with the analysis and verification process of the entire pool of possible retirees for savings with the +2 “Golden Handshake.” The Tulare County Office of Education, the district’s external auditor, would verify the results. If a positive savings is determined, the district could allow interested employees to apply for the “Golden Handshake.” The figures would then be recalculated on the final pool of applicants, and if a cost-savings is shown, a recommendation would come back to the board to offer the +2 (Golden Handshake) option.

PROPERTY  
APPRAISAL  
PROCESS

Keith Hopper and Randy Groom, of Hopper and Associates, a leading governmental appraisal company in California, explained the process for appraising property that the district may wish to purchase or sell (Encl. No. 27). Also covered were the qualifications that appraisers need to have and the standards they are required to adhere to when appraising properties.

RESOLUTION -  
INTENTION TO SELL  
CERTAIN REAL  
PROPERTY  
Motion No. 146

As previously approved by the board, the district is in discussions with the City regarding the sale of approximately four acres of district-owned property located south of Oak Grove Elementary School at Linwood Avenue and Prospect Street for the development of a park. Enclosure No. 28 was a resolution that would allow the district to modify the terms or appraised value to some extent and accept a somewhat lower value in order to receive the mutual benefit of the sale to the City. Nathan Ide, district legal counsel in this particular transaction, explained the processes a school district can use to dispose of property. He said that Education Code makes a special exception if a school district sees a benefit of having a park, recreational facility or open space on that location, and allows the district to accept less than fair market value for the property. Dr. Fulmer said that the City has offered \$52,500 per acre. The appraised value of the property is \$55,000 per acre. He said that if the City develops the four acres, they are offering to pay all development costs of the park, the infrastructure of the park, provide all of the maintenance costs and pay all of the street and road improvements while Oak Grove and the neighborhood maintain access to the park. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Jones, the board approved the resolution. Ayes: all. Motion carried. The final agreement will come back to the board for their consideration and approval.

SPECIAL ACTION ON  
PROPOSED VISALIA

Mr. Carrizosa reported that the district has moved into the joint facility use application process with the City for joint use facility funds from the state for the Visalia Community Pool

**COMMUNITY POOL  
COMPLEX**  
Motion No. 147

Complex (Encl. No. 29). Matching funds up to \$200K have been authorized by the City Council toward this project. Included in the enclosure were the components of the pool complex. Mr. Carrizosa said that tonight's action would relate to action the district would make with Measure P, currently a \$25.6 million bond, \$5 million of which is proposed for the Community Pool Complex. If the application is approved for the joint use facility funds and we gain as much as a 50% match for the pool, \$2.5 million could be subtracted from the \$5 million amount for the project. If the joint facility use application is approved in a timely manner, the district could reduce the Measure P Bond amount before it is issued. This would return savings to the taxpayer before the bond is sold. This action would, of course, be contingent upon the passage of Measure P. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Guerrero, the board approved the resolution, that in the event the district and City are successful in securing joint use facility funds from the state to off-set up to 50% of the cost of the Visalia Community Pool, the Measure P Bond will be adjusted prior to selling the bonds to save tax dollars for the community. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**RECONVENE IN  
CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:45 p.m., the board reconvened in closed session to continue discussion on the closed session agenda items.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:22 p.m., the board reconvened in open session. President Lane announced that no action had been taken in closed session. The meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be February 24, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the VUSD Educational Complex located at 5000 West Cypress Avenue, Visalia (unless otherwise posted).

Respectfully submitted,

---

Rodney Elder  
Clerk

---

Stan A. Carrizosa  
Superintendent/Secretary