

**Visalia Unified School District
Board of Education**

MINUTES

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The September 14, 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	8:40	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	8:40	
Larry Jones	5:30	8:40	
Michael Lane	5:30	8:40	
Donna Martin	5:30	8:40	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	8:40	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	8:40	
Katherine Pankow, Student Representative	7:00	8:25	
 Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	 5:30	 8:40	

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 REINSTATEMENTS
2. RECOMMENDED REVIEWS-CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
 1. Agency Negotiator: Kay Van Anandel
 2. Employee Organizations
 1. VUTA
 2. CSEA
 3. Management

**RECONVENE IN
REGULAR SESSION**

The board reconvened in regular session at 7 p.m. Rob Stephenson lead the Pledge of Allegiance. President Lane announced that no action was taken in closed session.

Motion No. 38

President Lane then announced that an item needed to be added to tonight's Routine Action Agenda under consultant contracts. The district was informed yesterday that there was an opportunity to have a Russian musician work with Redwood High School band students while

he is in Visalia. On a motion by Qualls and second by Elder, the board approved adding the item. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION /
PROCLAMATIONS /
ACTION (as
applicable)
HISPANIC**

**HERITAGE MONTH -
SEPTEMBER 15 TO
OCTOBER 15, 2004
Motion No. 39**

Clerk Elder read a proclamation setting September 15 through October 15, 2004, as Hispanic Heritage Month (Encl. No. 1). On a motion by Guerrero and second by Martin, the proclamation was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried. A copy of the resolution will be distributed district-wide.

**RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING
PROTEUS INC.
GRANT
APPLICATION
Motion No. 40**

Superintendent Carrizosa explained that Enclosure No. 2 was a resolution offering support for Proteus Inc. in their grant application through Proposition 40, an urban state parks grant program. Proteus Inc. is seeking to serve as the lead agency in a collaborative project that would pursue grant funding to improve the Wittman Village Community Center in North Visalia to support more after-school activities. In sponsoring this grant, VUSD claims no liability for activities at the center. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Jones, the resolution was adopted by the board. Ayes: Elder, Jones, Lane, Martin, Qualls and Stephenson. Abstain: Guerrero, as he is an employee of Proteus Inc.

**ACCEPTANCE OF
CONTRIBUTIONS
TOWARD THE
GROPPETTI
AUTOMOTIVE -
VISALIA
COMMUNITY
STADIUM
Motion No. 41**

Enclosure No. 3 included a list of continuing donations to the Groppetti Automotive - Visalia Community Stadium. To date, monetary donations toward this project amount to \$195,465 with pledges of material and supplies amounting to \$75,950. Total contributions amount to \$271,415. On a motion by Qualls and second by Martin, the board gratefully accepted the donations. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT
/ PUBLIC INTEREST
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Karl Kildow, VUTA president, updated the board on the upcoming "Day in the Life of a Teacher" shadowing in which board members, assistant superintendents and the superintendent will be participating. Mr. Kildow indicated that there were a number of teachers who had indicated their interest in sharing a day with a board member or administrator. He encouraged area administrators to participate in the teacher shadowing. Mr. Kildow reported that a High Performance High School Initiative is coming up October 25 and 26. He said that VUTA is sending two teachers as they feel this is an important opportunity. He added that teachers have to implement any type of policy that evolves, and that they should be part of the planning process. Mr. Kildow then shared a number of concerns that have been expressed to him by teachers. Many of the concerns Mr. Kildow spoke of will be addressed in future board meetings.

Drew Sorensen, El Diamante principal, thanked the people involved in getting the Gropetti Automotive - Community Stadium ready for its first football game. He said it was a nice venue to play, with “great turf.”

A Divisadero parent, Deborah Gibson, extended her appreciation for the wonderful assistance Anna Gomez at Divisadero has given her son this school year. Mrs. Gibson’s son has cerebral palsy and Ms. Gomez has “made every accommodation” for her son “to get to class and be part of the school community.” The board and audience extended a warm round of applause to Ms. Gomez for her assistance.

Rollan Westley, a VUSD teacher for 19 years, spoke of his long dissatisfaction with the teachers union and his search to find a positive alternative. He said he has found the Association of American Educators and gave an overview of what he considers to be the advantages of this association over the teachers union. Two meetings have been held with representatives from the AAE–May 3 and September 13. Mr. Westley said that he is going to spread the information “with all of his heart and his might to give teachers another alternative.” He added that the association is legally sound and operates on sound principles. He left a packet of information describing the association.

Cody Gibson, a senior at Mt. Whitney High School, and the Opinion Editor for the *Pioneer*, the school paper, spoke regarding a section of the district’s dress code policy regarding the wearing of hats. Mr. Gibson shared his opinion that students should be allowed to wear hats, minus objectionable messages, outside the classroom.

ENROLLMENT
UPDATE AND
ANNUAL STAFFING
ADJUSTMENTS

Robert Gröeber presented a brief PowerPoint summary of Enclosure No. 4. Additional copies were available for the audience. The summary provided an update of where the district is in terms of enrollment in this school year, how it relates to the projections made last year and how it will affect staffing adjustments which are done early in the year to balance classrooms. He explained the process used by district staff in February to estimate enrollment for the next school year. This estimate is used to establish district staffing as well as determine the amount of ADA that will be budgeted for the next school year. Mr. Gröeber said that when school begins, the district typically makes one-time staffing adjustments in order to balance our classrooms. The district currently has around 200 more students than were anticipated when projections were made last February. This presents a challenge in placing the students and providing teachers in order to meet the needs for the balance of the school year. Mr. Gröeber also explained how enrollment typically fluctuates in the district.

Margaret Moss said that if our students are served well by the district in the first month of school, they will stay in the district longer. She added that this cannot be done in a class of 40 students. She asked that the district explore ways to provide a better quality opening of school so that students are not “turned off of school.”

Superintendent Carrizosa responded that there is certainly value to having school more stable, class lists more appropriately balanced and staffing as adequate as it can be right from the very first day.

President Lane also responded that one of the complexities in this issue is the district's "razor thin budget that just meets our reserve requirements." He said that it is fiscally responsible to provide services to students while maintaining the financial integrity of the district.

**STATUS OF
CONSTRUCTION
AND MODERN-
IZATION PROJECTS**

Dr. Fulmer addressed one of Mr. Kildow's concerns expressed earlier in tonight's meeting. He explained that the contractor responsible for the Valley Oak portables project is still under contract with the district and is working through a design element with the California Division of State Architect, which has delayed the project. Dr. Fulmer said that the contractor will begin working weekends and some evenings to complete the project. The contractor has indicated that it will take approximately four to five weeks to finish the project. Separate from this issue, work is continuing on the "bell issue" at Valley Oak with the contractor who has indicated that work will be resolved by this Friday.

Dr. Fulmer also reported on construction projects taking place at El Diamante, Golden West, La Joya and Redwood (Encl. No. 5). Dr. Fulmer also reported that the pre-bid conference for the Dans Lane Elementary School will be September 23, 2004.

Mrs. Moss again addressed the board regarding "the series of things that fell out with the modernization of Redwood." Mr. Carrizosa responded that staff has learned that if the district has modernization project plans in place and additions are going to be made to the rooms, they will consult the modernization plans to ensure that the additions are being done in accordance with what the modernization plan will be in the future. He reminded the board and Mrs. Moss that the projects under discussion were Measure G Modernization projects, and are four years old in design and submission to the state and that our work has been to implement them as well as we could.

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

The board welcomed Katherine Pankow, student representative to the board. She reported that Golden West students are looking forward to the opening of the new stadium on September 24, the date of their first rally, and that they are starting to plan for Homecoming; El Diamante students are struggling with Homecoming ideas due to the fact that they do not have a senior class this year. Their first rally will be held on Friday; Redwood's Homecoming theme will be "Haunted Homecoming-Raising the Spirit of Redwood." Redwood students had their first assembly on August 27 and also held their Icebreaker Dance that same day; Mt. Whitney and Redwood students have been holding Cowhide meetings with committee members chosen by ASB advisors; Mt. Whitney held its first rally, a military theme. This year's Homecoming theme will be "The Magical World of Disney" and Homecoming nominations are due this Friday. Miss Pankow also reported that a new tradition has started this year with class competitions where students have the opportunity to compete against other classes to receive their class name on a banner which will be hung in the gym.

Board members reported that they attended Back-to-School Nights and were impressed with the focus on continuity of curriculum from class to class, and also that parents were learning about the Standards-Based Report Cards. Board member Martin also reported on going on a morning bus route and commended the Transportation Department for the amazing job they do in getting the buses out to transport our students. Other board members reported on attending the Grand Opening at the Community Stadium this past Friday, visiting with VUTA President, Karl Kildow, attending the Joven Noble Study Session held on September 7 and visiting various schools. Board members commended district staff on how well the schools and classrooms are being maintained.

Mr. Jones asked if there is a way that the district can work with the city for ordinances with private homes around schools that allow cars to be on the property as well as trash, giving the impression of a “junk yard.” Mr. Jones asked if this topic could be raised at the next Joint VUSD/City Council meeting.

Mr. Carrizosa reminded the board members of the upcoming opportunity to shadow a teacher for a day.

PUBLIC HEARING / ACTION

RESOLUTION ON
THE NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR
THE NORTHWEST
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
(SHANNON RANCH)
Motion No. 42

Dr. Fulmer reported that the district has undertaken a preliminary environmental report on the proposed Shannon Ranch elementary school site. He said that no significant comments or impediments for use of this as a school site had been received. A Public Hearing was opened. No one addressed the board. The Public Hearing was closed. On a motion by Stephenson and second by Guerrero, the resolution was approved. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

FOCUS ON STUDENT LEARNING

Presentation/Public
Comment/Board
Discussion

REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO BP
4112.2 -
CERTIFICATION -
FIRST READING

Mr. Carrizosa reviewed the changes in board policies included in Enclosure No. 7 through Enclosure No. 13. The policies have gone through the board policy committee process prior to being brought to the board for a first reading.

Enclosure No. 7 included an update to the section on emergency teaching or specialist permits to reflect recent Commission on Teacher Credentialing actions aligning with the federal requirements in the No Child Left Behind Act.

REVIEW NEW CSBA
BP 4112.24 -
TEACHER
QUALIFICATIONS
UNDER THE NO
CHILD LEFT BEHIND
ACT - FIRST
READING

Enclosure No. 8 describes certification regarding the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act that teachers of core academic subjects be “highly qualified” and enlists support from the new Title 5 regulations detailing the requirements for demonstrating the teacher qualifications, depending on the grade level and whether or not the teacher is new to the profession.

REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO
MANDATED BP/AR
4113 - ASSIGNMENT
- FIRST READING

Enclosure No. 9 contains a mandated policy and regulation update under the No Child Left Behind Act requiring specified teachers to demonstrate subject matter competency in each subject they are teaching.

REVIEW CSBA
REVISION TO
MANDATED BP/AR
4200 - CLASSIFIED
PERSONNEL - FIRST
READING

BP/AR 4200 (Encl. No. 10) includes an update to reflect new law which requires the board to specify the service to be performed and the ending date of the service before employing short-term classified employees. It describes what temporary employment is so that full-time employees are not undermined by a series of temporary employment strategies.

REVIEW CSBA
RECOMMENDA-
TION TO DELETE BP
4213 - ASSIGN-
MENT/CLASSIFI-
CATION - FIRST
READING

The recommendation included in Enclosure No. 11 was to delete this Board Policy because it is covered under additional policies being proposed.

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

Enclosure No. 12 included new language reflecting the State Board of Education action which gives districts the discretion to develop or select an assessment of paraprofessional qualifications that meets the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. This recommended change will bring the district’s policy into alignment with the requirements to certify the competency of paraprofessionals so that they can effectively work in Title 1 Programs, under No Child Left Behind.

REVIEW STAFF
REVISION TO BP
5145.3 - NON-
DISCRIMINATION/
HARASSMENT -
FIRST READING

Enclosure No. 13 contains a recommended deletion so that the district’s policy will be aligned with our actual practice. The district is recommending a deletion to the reference of “sex education” classes in the current policy because there are no board-adopted sex education classes in our curriculum.

Each of the previous policies will be brought back for a second reading and board action at the September 28 board meeting.

ROUTINE ACTION
Motion No. 43

President Lane announced that the Goshen field trip and the High School German Clubs' field trip to Palo Alto needed to be taken off of tonight's agenda. The items may or may not be brought back for action at an upcoming meeting. Also, Mr. Jones asked that Item 9.5-3 (Encl. No. 31) be pulled for discussion. Note: The board earlier approved an addition to the consultant contracts (Encl. No. 31).

On a motion by Elder and second by Qualls, the board approved the remaining Routine Action items as follows:

9.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - August 13 through August 27, 2004 (Encl. No. 14)
2. 2004-05 Budget Revision No. 03 (Encl. No. 15)
3. Grant/Entitlement Application Request for Approval (Encl. No. 16)
4. Visalia Civic Facilities Authority Use Contracts (Encl. No. 17)
5. Approval of 2003/04 Unaudited Actuals (Encl. No. 18)
6. Change Order #1 - CNG Fuel Station Project (Encl. No. 19)
7. Change Order #3 - El Diamante High School Buildings 4 & 5 Project (Encl. No. 20)
8. Notice of Completion - Redwood High School Science Classrooms Project (Encl. No. 21)
9. Request to Piggyback for School Buses (Encl. No. 22)
10. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 23)

9.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, Elementary

1. SCICON Day Contract for Fifth Grade (Encl. No. 24)
2. SCICON Week Contract for Sixth Grade (Encl. No. 25)

9.3 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, K-6 and 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Request(s) (Encl. No. 26)

9.4 AREA ADMINISTRATOR, 7-12/Adult

1. Amendment to Agreement Between Visalia Adult School and Tulare County for Inmate Education to Extend Terms for FY04-05 (Encl. No. 27)
2. Workforce Investment Act, Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, Sections 225/231, English Literacy (Encl. No. 28)

9.5 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Memorandum of Understanding with San Joaquin County Bilingual Teacher Training Program (SB395) (Encl. No. 29)
2. Memorandum of Understanding with Tulare County Office of Education: Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program (Encl. No. 30)
3. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 31)

9.6 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 32)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 33)
3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 34)

- 4. Certification of Coach List for 2004-2005 Fall Sports (Encl. No. 35)
- 9.7 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
 - 1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 10, 2004 (Encl. No. 36)

Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Motion No. 44

Mr. Jones asked that when district staff attends various conferences that a brief report of what they learned be provided to the board. He said that he would like to know why we are sending staff to conferences and what they are bringing back to the district. On a motion by Jones and second by Qualls, the board approved Enclosure No. 31. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS /
ACTION**

REINSTATEMENTS
Motion No. 45

On a motion by Qualls and second by Martin, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reinstatement Case No. 05-25 R, Case No. 05-26 R and Case No. 05-27 R (Encl. No. 37) were approved. Ayes: Elder, Guerrero, Jones, Lane, Martin and Qualls. Mr. Stephenson was out of the room for the vote. Motion carried.

REVIEWS-
CONTINUED
EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 46

On a motion by Elder and second by Martin, the Administrative Panel Recommendations on Reviews-Continued Expulsion Case No. 05-11 RCE and Case No. 05-12 RCE (Encl. No. 38) were approved. Ayes: Elder, Guerrero, Jones, Lane, Martin and Qualls. Mr. Stephenson was out of the room for the vote. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

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

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO EMPLOY
CERTIFICATED
PERSONNEL AND
APPROVAL OF
VARIABLE TERM
WAIVER REQUEST
Motion No. 47

Mrs. Van An del reported that the credential waiver included in Enclosure No. 39 is for hard to fill positions. In this instance, the position is for an Special Day Class Teacher, Grades 4-6. The individual holds a degree in Liberal Studies and is working toward her credential. On a motion by Qualls and second by Martin, the Variable Term Waiver Request was approved. Ayes: Elder, Guerrero, Jones, Lane, Martin and Qualls. Mr. Stephenson was out of the room for the vote. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION -
SCHOOL
FACILITIES
FUNDING AND
APPLICATION FOR

Dr. Fulmer explained that the district is seeking to receive some state reimbursement for additions made at Crestwood, Crowley and Fairview Elementary Schools. The resolution included in Enclosure No. 40, if approved, would provide more state school construction dollars than would a transfer of eligibility from the original SE elementary site. Pending release of our grant units from the original SE elementary application, it is necessary to use a portion of our grades 7-8

STATE GRANT
FUNDING FOR
ANOTHER GRADE
LEVEL FOR
CRESTWOOD,
CROWLEY AND
FAIRVIEW
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
ADDITIONS
Motion No. 48

eligibility grant. On a motion by Guerrero and second by Jones, the resolution was approved.
Ayes: all. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be September 28, 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