

**Visalia Unified School District
Board of Education
MINUTES**

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The November 14, 2006 Board Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Robert Stephenson 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	9:35	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	9:35	
Larry Jones	5:30	9:35	
Michael Lane			X
Donna Martin	5:30	9:35	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	9:35	
Robert Stephenson	5:30	9:35	
 Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	 5:30	 9:35	

Staff Members

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
 Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Educational Services
 Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
 Pam Ryan, Executive Assistant, Superintendent's Office
 Jamie Nance, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Stephenson then identified the closed session topics listed below and called for public comment on the closed session items. There was none. The board adjourned to closed session.

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 RECOMMENDED REVIEWS-CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
- 2.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT/REASSIGNMENT/APPOINTMENT
 - 1. Chief Financial Officer
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Cindi Costa
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - 1. VUTA
 - 2. CSEA
 - 3. Management

REGULAR SESSION

The board convened the regular board meeting at 7:05 p.m. President Stephenson announced that the board took the following action in closed session. On a motion by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Elder, the board approved unanimously in favor to appoint Christine Statton to the position of Chief Financial Officer. Mrs. Statton is currently serving the Visalia Unified School District as the Director of Internal Audits and has held that position for the past four years.

Mr. Stephenson reported that Mr. Lane is absent tonight because of illness.

Mr. Guerrero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/
PUBLIC INTEREST
ANNOUNCEMENTS/
STATUS REPORTS/
ACTION**

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Yolanda Alvarez – Crestwood PTA, requested that the board review and revise the educational study trip guidelines to increase the number of field trips students can participate in each year to three. The Crestwood PTA would like to donate funds so that students can attend more study trips. After discussion, the board policy and regulation 6153 – School-Sponsored Trips will be reviewed by the Board Policy Committee.

Marie Randles – asked that toys be collected and donated to the Visalia Police Assistance League (PAL). The Superintendent’s Office will collect the toys.

Jerry Jensen – addressed the board with suggestions on key points to consider in the next school bond election.

**High School Vocational Education
Report on Student
Academic Achievement
and Allocation
Expenditures for
2005-06**

Pat Flattley, Director of Alternative Education/Career Technical Education (CTE)/Regional Occupational Program (ROP), and members of the Visalia Partners in Education (VPIE), Randy Wallace, Project Director for Tulare County Office of Education and Glenn Morris, Director of Visalia Economic Corporation, reported to the board on the 2005-2006 community contributions, program expenditures, and academic achievement of vocational education students. (Encl. No. 1) In the spring of 2006, the board approved the VPIE plan for 2006-2011 in which VPIE committed to matching the amount of both in-kind services and a cash contribution for equipment and instructional supplies that the board budgeted for all four comprehensive programs equaling \$150,000.

**VUSD Balanced
Budget Report 2006-
2007
Motion No. 60**

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, presented an updated summary of the VUSD Balanced Budget for 2006-2007. (Encl. No. 2) The presentation provided an opportunity for a detailed review of the adopted budget and the management salary adjustment recommended for this fiscal year. The Tulare County Office of Education audited the district’s budget and submitted it to the State Department of Education. The balanced budget that the board approved for 2006-2007 maintains programs, pays expenses, maintains the 3% required reserve and offers all employees an equitable salary increase of 5%. If the board were to offer a higher increase in salary, it would have to cut programs.

Public Comment

Karl Kildow, President of the Visalia Unified Teachers Association (VUTA), asked for clarification on the 45- day Budget Revision showing increased costs of \$9,299,891 and the new projected Budget Summary showing increased costs of \$7,746,703 which is a \$1,553,188 change.

Robert explained one significant difference in the 45-day budget revision and the earlier budget proposed in June. This difference was the item in the June General Fund Balanced Budget Summary referred to as the “Annual Attendance Instability Adjustment.” This line accounts for any annual shortfall between projected ADA and actual ADA within a single budget year. During the course of 2005-06, the district experienced a drop in ADA creating an unanticipated revenue shortfall. This was due largely to a drop in actual attendance by all students in K-12 from 95% to 94%. Unless corrected by reduction in spending, this could create a budget deficit at the end of the fiscal year. The projected shortfall was up to \$1.3M for 2005-06. This shortfall was corrected by year-end through ongoing cuts in central administration general fund costs and receipt of unexpected increases in ongoing funding from the Tulare County SELPA for Special Education expenses. This allowed the \$1.3M being set aside from new revenues to be added to the general fund balance available for across-the-board salary increases. This \$1.3M increased the percentage available for salary from 4% to 5% for 2006-07.

For developing the 2007-2008 budget, the board asked for a one-page summary/fact sheet of what programs are encroached upon and how much money the district is spending on those programs. A breakdown of the categorical funding not receiving the COLA will be a part of the summary.

Mrs. Donna Martin moved to accept this balanced budget report with no further budget reductions or cuts in programs and services to students and staff for 2006-2007. Mr. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA
Resolution to Establish
Salary and Benefits
For District Managers
and Confidential
Employees Effective
July 1, 2006
Motion No. 61

The board agreed to move General Agenda Item 9.1 (Encl. No. 30) – Resolution to Establish Salary and Benefits for District Managers and Confidential Employees effective July 1, 2006 to be discussed and voted on next since the previous report provided the foundation information for this agenda item.

Mrs. Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development, presented the Resolution establishing the salary and benefits for district managers and confidential employees for 2006-07 effective July 1, 2006. This resolution includes a 5% salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2006 with no change in the current medical plan under SISK. There is no change in coverage under the prescription plan with the exception of a change in carrier to American Health Care. The increased cost for the 2006-07 year shall be met through a combination of employee contributions and payment from the management restricted reserve account.

Superintendent Carrizosa clarified that this is the same total compensation available currently to all other employee groups that the district is in negotiations with. The insurance premium payment is a monthly employee contribution and has a window for signing up for payroll deduction compensation (Section 125 where insurance premiums can be paid on pre-taxed dollars) in the month of November only for the year. That is part of the timing issue related to the recommendation.

Mrs. Costa clarified for the board that the district has been working with both bargaining groups for seven months.

Mr. Jim Qualls moved to accept the Resolution to Establish Salary Benefits for District Managers and Confidential Employees Effective July 1, 2006. Mr. Larry Jones seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

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

Jamie Nance, Student Representative to the board representing Mt. Whitney High School, gave a brief summary of the events that are taking place at each of the four comprehensive high schools.

The board members' reports included the following:

- Passed out medals at Ivanhoe School to students achieving proficient and above proficient on their Standards Based Report Card
- Visited Mt. Whitney PE Department
- Enjoyed Cowhide and Battle for the Saddle football games and acknowledged the school spirit of all of the schools
- Spoke to parents at the Parent Education Graduation at Houston School
- Attended Houston School Site Council meeting
- Attended Ivanhoe Leadership Graduation
- Attended the Tulare County Office of Education's Fall Institute
- Acknowledged El Diamante and Mt. Whitney football teams for playing in the playoffs
- Visited Goshen School as part of Alternative Governance
- Attended the annual PTA President's luncheon
- Will watch Mt. Whitney boys cross-country team participate in the State meet

Superintendent Carrizosa reported that Charter Independent Study School received a one-time \$135,000 Federal Charter School grant to help offset the cost of materials, supplies and technology.

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT
LEARNING**

Annual Presentation of District and School Site Safe School Plans
Motion No. 62

Lucinda Mejdell-Awbrey, Director of Student Services, presented the Annual District and School Site Safe School Plans. (Encl. No. 3) She explained the five components that the plans must include that are required by California law:

- Assessment data—suspension and expulsion data, California Healthy Kids Survey results, health issues in the school and other issues related to their neighborhood and community
- Board policies related to harassment, sexual harassment, civility, child abuse reporting and school safety
- Comprehensive safe schools approach including the physical safety of students and staff, emotional safety and youth development
- Conduct codes
- Each school must have a Crisis Response Plan

She provided one-half of the district's schools Comprehensive Safe School Plan. In December she will bring the other half of the safe school plans from the remaining schools along with an outline of what the Crisis Response Plan looks like for each school.

The board expressed concern about traffic safety issues at Mt. View and Redwood schools. Mrs. Mejdell-Awbrey will take these concerns to the principals and also the City staff to look at what else can be done to address these issues better.

Mr. Guerrero moved to approve the Comprehensive Safe School Plans that have been presented tonight. Mrs. Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

School Site Plan
Revisions
Motion No. 63

Jim Sullivan, Coordinator of State and Federal Projects, presented the School Site Plan Revisions for Cottonwood Creek, Crestwood, Elbow Creek, Golden Oak, Hurley, Linwood, Mt. View, Oak Grove, Pinkham and Royal Oaks Elementary Schools, La Joya Middle School and Charter Alternative Academy. (Encl. No. 4) The remaining School Site Plan Revisions will be on the agenda for the next two board meetings.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the one-time State money and how it is a part of the School Site Plan and also the process that the schools went through to approve their School Site Plans.

Each School Site Council determined the use of the one-time funding from the State. At the August 8th meeting, the board approved the funding to be used in areas such as music, art, physical education, lab equipment, classroom supplies, instructional materials, educational technology, deferred maintenance, professional development, and school and classroom library materials.

The board also recommended that school leadership govern in accordance with the following when developing spending plans:

- Alignment with District-Wide Goals for 2006-2007
- Support of school site goals in the single plan for student achievement
- Assistance in meeting or exceeding annual Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) goals
- Assistance for students in preparing for the California High School Exit

Exam

- Providing enriched student activities and opportunities for all students
- Ensure activities and expenditures are based on the following:
 - Advice and input for established advisory committees and councils
 - Input and involvement from students, parents, and teachers
 - Academic and curricular standards
 - Equity for all students
 - Prudent spending practices

Each school went through the recommended process. The board encouraged the schools to actively recruit parents to become involved. Mr. Sullivan reported a typo on page 16 of the Royal Oaks School Site Plan. Instead of \$1,000,000 it should read \$1,000.

Mr. Qualls moved to approve these School Site Plans as presented. Mrs. Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Staff Update on School Improvement Process

Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Educational Services, presented, for information only, the status of what the district would do if schools did not improve. (Encl. No. 5) She began by reviewing the program improvement process for Phase 3, 4 and 5 schools under the direction of the Alternative Governance Board (AG Board). If school sites do not make improvement under the AG Board process, there are two directions the district could take.

One way is that the State has a process called the School Assistance Intervention Team that could be implemented. If a school accepted any High Priority School Grant money and they did not make 10 points growth in three years, there is no choice. The school would be a part of the School Assistance Intervention Team (SAIT) process.

Presently, the district has seven schools in High Priority School Grants: Houston, Highland, Fairview, Goshen, Ivanhoe, and Crowley. Union is just entering into it this year as a planning phase. Highland, Fairview, Goshen, Ivanhoe and Crowley made their growth for three years so they are out of the High Priority. If a school falls into the School Assistance Intervention Team process, the district would interview and choose an outside consultant that has been approved by the State that would work with the district school board and the State Board of Education.

The State provides \$75,000 for three years for the outside consultant and that is usually what the consultant charges. The State also provides \$150 per student so that needed programs can be implemented at that school site.

The other direction would be, if a school is not in high priority but has not made growth over several years, the board could make the decision upon staff recommendation to mirror that same process.

ROUTINE ACTION

Mr. Elder moved to approve the Routine Action Items, Encl. No. 6-26. Mrs. Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: Elder, Jones, Martin, Qualls and Stephenson. Absent from the room: Guerrero. Absent from the meeting: Lane. Motion carried.

7. ROUTINE ACTION

7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - October 13, 2006 through October 27, 2006 (Encl. No. 6)
2. 2006-07 Budget Revision No. 7 (Encl. No. 7)
3. Remove Dr. Mark Fulmer from the Authorized Signer List (Encl. No. 8)
4. Visalia Civic Facilities Authority User Contracts (Encl. No. 9)
5. Vendor Contracts for Various Maintenance and Service Needs (Encl. No. 10)
6. Approval of Bid 4621 - Golden West High School Fencing Project (Encl. No. 11)
7. Change Order #1 - Re-roofing & HVAC Project at Conyer School (Encl. No. 12)
8. Notice of Completionas - Re-roofing & HVAC Project at Conyer School (Encl. No. 13)
9. Notice of Completion - Redwood High School/Giant Chevrolet Cadillac - Mineral King Bowl ADA Access Project (Encl. No. 14)

7.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, K-6, 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Request(s) (Encl. No. 15)
2. Agreement Between Tulare County Organization for Vocational Education in Conjunction with Visalia Unified School District and West Gate Gardens Convalescent Center and Linwood Gardens Convalescent Center (Encl. No. 16)

7.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 17)
2. Early Mental Health Initiative Grand Funded (Encl. No. 18)

7.4 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 Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for 2006-07 (Encl. No. 22)
5. Rejection of Claim No. 070015 (Encl. No. 23)

7.5 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1. Date of Annual Organizational Meeting - December 12, 2006 (Encl. No. 24)
2. Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 10, 2006 (Encl. No. 25)
3. Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 24, 2006 (Encl. No. 26)

**PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION**

EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 65

Mr. Qualls moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 07-26 E, Case No. 07-27 E, Case No. 07-28 E, Case No. 07-29 E, Case No. 07-30 E, Case No. 07-31 E, Case No. 07-32 E, Case No. 07-33 E, Case No. 07-34 E and

Case No. 07-35 E. (Encl. No. 27) Mrs. Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS**
Motion No. 66

Mr. Elder moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 07-13 SE, Case No. 07-14 SE, Case No. 07-15 SE, Case No. 07-16 SE, Case No. 07-17 SE and Case No. 07-18 SE (Encl. No. 28) Mr. Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**REVIEWS-
CONTINUED
EXPULSIONS**
Motion No. 67

Mrs. Martin moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Reviews-Continued Expulsions Case No. 07-12 RCE and Case No. 07-13 RCE. (Encl. No. 29) Mr. Guerrero seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

Resolution to Establish
Salary and Benefits
For District Managers
and Confidential
Employees Effective
July 1, 2006

This item was moved up in the agenda by the board and was discussed and voted on after Agenda Item 4.3 – VUSD Balanced Budget Report 2006-07.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2006, 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,

Clerk of the Board

Stan A. Carrizosa
Superintendent