

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The December 11, 2007 Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Donna Martin 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	9:40	
William A. Fulmer	7:00	9:40	
Juan R. Guerrero	5:30	9:40	
Larry Jones	5:30	9:40	
Michael Lane	5:30	9:40	
Donna Martin	5:30	9:40	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	9:40	
 Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent	 5:30	 9:40	

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
 Rebecca Do-Reynoso, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

President Martin 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 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
- 2.4 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Cindi Costa
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - 1. VUTA
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
 - 1. Property: 28050 Rd. 148
APN: 127-050-013
 - 2. Agency negotiator: Robert Gröeber
 - 3. Negotiating parties: VUSD/To Be Determined
 - 4. Under negotiation: Potential Lease/Sale
- 2.6 SUPERINTENDENT'S MID-YEAR REVIEW

REGULAR SESSION

The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. President Martin announced that no action was taken in closed session. Larry Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CERTIFICATION

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, presented the

**OF RESULTS OF
CONSOLIDATED
DISTRICT
ELECTION**

Certification of Results of Consolidated District Election held November 6, 2007 from the Registrar of Voters of Tulare County, State of California. Donna Baker Martin, William A. Fulmer, and Larry Jones were elected to the office of Member of the Governing Board of the Visalia Unified School District for the term of four (4) years commencing on December 7, 2007.

**ADMINISTRATION
OF OATH OF
OFFICE**

Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development, administered the Oath of Office to Donna Martin, William A. Fulmer, and Larry Jones. Each newly elected Board member signed their Oath of Office and took their seats at the Board dais.

**ELECTION OF
BOARD OFFICERS
PRESIDENT**

Motion No. 67

Superintendent Stan Carrizosa read the description of the duties and responsibilities of the Board President, Board Bylaw 9121. (Encl. No. 1) Board members were given the opportunity to express their interest in holding the position of President before the floor was officially opened for the nomination of the office. Each motion requires a second before the vote can be taken.

Jim Qualls moved to nominate Juan Guerrero as President of the Board. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

CLERK

Motion No. 68

Superintendent Carrizosa read the description of the duties of the Clerk of the Board, Board Bylaw 9123. (Encl. No. 2) Newly appointed Board President Juan Guerrero asked for nominations for office.

Donna Martin moved to nominate Rodney Elder as Clerk of the Board. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: Elder, Fulmer, Guerrero, Jones, Lane, and Martin. Noes: Qualls. Motion carried.

**CONFIRMATION
OF BOARD
SECRETARY**

Motion No. 69

Education Code requires the Board to take formal action to appoint the Superintendent by position to serve as Secretary to the Board, Board Bylaw 9122. (Encl. No. 3)

Bill Fulmer moved to appoint Superintendent Carrizosa to serve as Secretary to the Board. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Superintendent Carrizosa recognized the past officers Donna Martin as President and Michael Lane as Clerk for their support and service to the Board, Visalia Unified School District and the community and presented each with a commemorative plaque.

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

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Norma Aguirre, the parent of a student at Divisadero, spoke to the Board concerning her child being threatened. She will meet with Carlyn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Educational Services.

Ivan Gonzalez, discussed a program, Angel Wings Taxi, he has developed for Tulare County students to call for a safe ride whenever they need one to get home safely.

**ACCEPTANCE OF
DONATION –
HIGHLAND BLACK
TOP PROJECT
Motion No. 70**

Myron Sheklian, Area Administrator (K-6), presented a donation in the amount of \$7,788 for the Highland black top project for Board approval. (Encl. No. 4) Previously, the Highland School was without an adequate basketball black top area. The Visalia Downtown Kiwanis Club, which for years has adopted Highland School, took on the task of raising funds to help defray the cost for these courts. Through their efforts, \$7,788 was collected from their club members, community businesses, and individuals.

Donna Martin moved to accept these donations. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**VUSD SITE BLOCK
GRANT
IMPLEMENTATION
UPDATE**

Last year's State budget sent one-time block grant funds directly from the State to School Site Councils to spend on school priorities. Myron Sheklian and Pat Flattley, Alternative Ed/CTE-ROP, presented the final update on how different schools are spending their funds to meet the specific needs of their students and staff. (Encl. No. 5) Highlights included the following types of purchases and investments:

- Willow Glen Elementary – Purchased additional DVD and VCR players for classrooms, replaced overhead projectors, will bring the Lawrence Hall of Science to the campus
- Sequoia High School – Purchased teacher work stations and equipment
- Charter Alternatives Academy – Packwood – Purchased monitor for security cameras

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

- Rebecca Do-Reynoso, Student Representative to the Board from Mt. Whitney High School, gave a brief summary of the events that are taking place at each of the four comprehensive high schools. The members of the United Student Association of Visalia (USAV) met and have the following recommendations in response to the gang issues in the community:
 - Addressing gang issues should be done through intervention and referral to a gang intervention program that moves beyond education and awareness
 - Scheduling additional follow-up sessions related to Breaking Down the Walls and/or Connecting the Dots to create a year-long, multi-year focus that insures the complete program would help because interest is high after the immediate school event but it diminishes over time
 - Creating a Big Brother/Sister Partnership with the City to reach out to the community through mentorship for students involved in gangs
 - Focusing on positive students and the positive environment in the schools. "We can build on our school environment through the strength of the majority of the students already involved in school life and activities placing emphasis on all the positive events and students who contribute."

The Board members' reports included the following:

- Attended Green Acres Middle School Winter Concert
- Offered Happy Holidays to all students and staff and thanked for all the hard work that is done
- Attended the annual California School Boards Association Conference
- Attended the Gang Summit
- Congratulated Bill Fulmer on his election and Donna Martin and Larry Jones for their re-election to the Board
- Attended Highland Elementary Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) graduation. District-wide, approximately 500 parents have completed the program so far at the mid-year mark
- Now on the VUSD website under "Board of Education", instant emails can be sent to Donna Martin at her request. Other Board members can request this also
- Congratulated Juan Guerrero for becoming the new Board President
- Congratulated El Diamante football team and coaches for their first place in the Valley Championship with a win over Tulare Union
- Thanked Houston Elementary Principal Linda Barwick for a tour of the campus
- Attended the El Diamante football assembly where the Mayor of Tulare wore the EDHS vest, spoke with the students, and brought Haagen-Dazs ice cream for each football player after losing the bet to the Visalia Mayor that Tulare Union would win the Valley Championship

Superintendent Carrizosa introduced El Diamante High School Principal Drew Sorensen who presented each Board member with a 2007 Central Section Championship shirt.

FOCUS ON STUDENT LEARNING

ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF DISTRICT AND SCHOOL SITE SAFE SCHOOL PLANS

Motion No. 71

Lucinda Mejdell-Awbrey, Director of Student Services, presented the annual District and School Site Safe School Plans. (Encl. No. 6) California law requires that each school develop and maintain a current Comprehensive Safe School Plan that is reviewed annually by a School Safety Committee. The committee must be made up of administrators, law enforcement, teachers, support staff, supervision staff, and parents or students. SB 187 requires that the Safe School Plans include the following components:

- Comprehensive safe school plan
- Assessment of school's safety needs
- Conduct codes
- Policies addressing child abuse, harassment, and staff and student safety
- Crisis response plan

Board member Lane requested reviewing the Code of Conduct for behavioral standards during strategic planning in January.

Public Comment

Karl Kildow – President of the Visalia Unified Teachers Association, requested the number of classrooms that do not have working phones. Mr. Gröeber and his staff have been assessing the District’s concern for improvement. Portables that do not have a land line are assigned cell phones or radios. Mr. Kildow stated that during school lockdowns or being without electricity, there needs to be a better way to notify teachers. Mr. Gröeber will provide an assessment of all of the sites.

Donna Martin moved to approve the Annual District and School Site Safe School Plans. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**CONNECTEDNESS
TO SCHOOL – NINTH
GRADE SUPPORT
PROGRAMS 2007-
2008: UPDATE**

Dr. Craig Wheaton, Area Administrator (7-12), presented the Connectedness to School – Ninth Grade Support Programs 2007-2008 Update. (Encl. No. 7) The mid-year progress report included an update of the following programs implemented this 2007-2008 school year designed to support ninth grade students as they transition into high school:

- Link crew (support transition for all 9th graders)
- Lunch time activity and student safety (all 9th graders)
- Transitional Learning Director (support for 100 at-risk students per school)
- Ninth grade academy (50 students per school)

ROUTINE ACTION

Motion No. 72

Superintendent Carrizosa pulled 11.2.1 (Encl. No. 14) – Student Field Trip Request(s) for further clarification.

Michael Lane moved to approve the remaining Routine Action Items, Encl. No. 8-27. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

11.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List - November 2, 2007 through November 16, 2007 (Encl. No. 8)
2. Resolution - Closing of Fund 300 (Encl. No. 9)
3. Change Order #1 - Mt. Whitney High School Classroom Building Project (Encl. No. 10)
4. Request to Piggyback Off California Department of General Services (Encl. No. 11)
5. Notice of Completion - Highland Elementary School Project, Phase I (Encl. No. 12)
6. Notice of Completion - Re-roofing Project at Various Sites (Encl. No. 13)

11.2 AREA ADMINISTRATORS, K-6; 7-12/Adult

1. Student Field Trip Request(s) (Encl. No. 14)
2. Revision to the VUSD Middle School and High School Guidance Plan (Encl. No. 15)
3. Service Agreement for TeleParent Project at Mt. Whitney High School (Encl. No. 16)

11.3 CURRICULUM/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Quarterly Uniform Compliant Report (Encl. No.17)
2. Local Agreement for Child Development Services Contract (Encl. No. 18)

3. School Site Plan Budget Addenda Revisions (Encl. No. 19)
- 11.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 20)
 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 21)
 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 22)
 4. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for 2007-08 (Encl. No. 23)
 5. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Student Teaching Agreement between Visalia Unified School District (VUSD) and California State University, Fresno (CSUF) Communicative Disorders Department (Encl. No. 24)
 6. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Student Teaching Agreement between Visalia Unified School District (VUSD) and Fresno Pacific University (FPU) (Encl. No. 25)
 7. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Intern Agreement between Visalia Unified School District (VUSD) and Point Loma Nazarene University (Encl. No. 26)
- 11.5 SUPERINTENDENT
1. Approval of Authorized Signatures for Calendar Year 2008 (Encl. No. 27)

Regarding the pulled agenda item 11.2.1 (Encl. No. 14)-Student Field Trips-El Diamante Chamber Sings Vienna, Austria 11/26/08 – 12/6/08, Mr. Carrizosa stated that Principal Sorensen and Choral Director John Sorber were present to give a brief overview and outline of this field trip and to answer any Board questions. This is a special project that requires pre-planning, fund raising and preparation a year in advance.

Motion No. 73

Michael Lane moved to approve Routine Action Item 11.2.1 (Encl. No. 14). Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION**

EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 74

Michael Lane moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 08-44 E, Case No. 08-45 E, Case No. 08-46 E, Case No. 08-47 E, Case No. 08-48 E, Case No. 08-49 E, Case No. 08-50 E, Case No. 08-51 E, Case No. 08-52 E, Case No. 08-53 E, Case No. 08-54 E, Case No. 08-55 E, Case No. 08-56 E, Case No. 08-57 E, Case No. 08-58 E, Case No. 08-59 E, Case No. 08-60 E, Case No. 08-61 E, Case No. 08-62 E, Case No. 08-63 E, and Case No. 08-64 E. (Encl. No. 28) Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS
Motion No. 75

Donna Martin moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 08-13 SE and Case No. 08-14 SE. (Encl. No. 29) Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**GENERAL AGENDA
COLLECTIVE**

Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development, presented the

BARGAINING
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN VUSD
AND VISALIA
UNIFIED TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION
(VUTA) FOR 2007-
2008

Motion No. 76

Tentative Agreement between VUSD and Visalia Unified Teachers Association (VUTA) for Board approval. (Encl. No. 30) On November 9, 2007, a Tentative Agreement was reached with VUTA that was then ratified by their members on November 27. Government Code Section 3547.5 requires that prior to entering into a negotiated agreement, the Board shall disclose at a public meeting the major provisions of the agreement, including the costs that would be incurred by the District under the agreement for the current and subsequent years. Contract changes affected salary which increased by 4.53%. Benefits remained status quo.

There was no public comment.

Larry Jones moved to approve this Collective Bargaining Agreement and Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

SELECTION OF
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
TO PARTICIPATE IN
2008 ELECTION OF
MEMBERS OF THE
COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON
SCHOOL DISTRICT
ORGANIZATION

Motion No. 77

As required by Education Code, the Board yearly selects a Board member to vote on behalf of the Visalia Unified School District in electing members to the County Committee on School District Organization. (Encl. No. 31) This committee considers and must approve reorganization proposals before they are forwarded to the State Board of Education for final approval.

Jim Qualls moved to select Donna Martin as this representative. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS
FOR 2008

Motion No. 78

Superintendent Carrizosa presented the 2008 VUSD Board Committee Meeting Assignment/Dates for discussion and approval. (Encl. 32) Michael Lane volunteered to serve on the Alternative Governance Board. Juan Guerrero stepped down from the TCOVE Board. Bill Fulmer will serve on that Board. Rodney Elder will assist with the transition to the TCOVE Board.

Jim Qualls moved to approve the committee assignments with the revisions. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

BOARD MEETING
DATES FOR THE
2008-09 SCHOOL
YEAR

Motion No. 79

Mr. Carrizosa presented the proposed Board Meeting Dates for the 2008-09 School Year as a part of the annual meeting. (Encl. No. 33) Board meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month except in July, November, and December when there is only one meeting in the month.

Rodney Elder moved to approve the list of Board meeting dates. Larry Jones seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

CSBA DELEGATE
NOMINATION:
DONNA MARTIN

Motion No. 80

Board member Donna Martin requested that the Board approve her nomination as a candidate for the CSBA Delegate Assembly. (Encl. No. 34) CSBA Delegate Assembly members serve two-year terms. Any school board that is a member of CSBA is eligible to nominate Board members within their geographical region or subregion. Delegates set the general policy direction and fulfill a critical governance role within the association.

They communicate the interests of local boards to CSBA's Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and staff.

Larry Jones moved to approve Donna Martin's nomination as a CSBA delegate. Michael Lane seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

SCHOOL ASSISTANCE INTERVENTION TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS: IVANHOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Motion No. 81

In order to complete the initial requirements for the School Assistance Intervention Team (SAIT) process for Ivanhoe Elementary School, recommendations for school improvement must be presented and accepted by the Governing Board. Doug Bartsch, Area Administrator (K-6), presented a summary of the key points of the report. (Encl. No. 35)

- Adopted text materials for all students – Fully Implemented
- Coaching support to teachers in Language Arts – Fully Implemented
- Curriculum pacing schedules in place for Language Arts – Fully Implemented
- Next Steps for further refinement:
 - Requiring additional materials for students who are two years below grade level or more in Language Arts and/or Math-Grades 4, 5 & 6th
 - Adjust a few daily schedules to ensure “uninterrupted” time blocks for English/Language Arts and Math
 - Adjust about half of classroom schedules to provide more time for students needing additional instruction
 - Provide additional training for principal and assistant principal regarding “leadership and support” using adopted program materials
 - Provide additional training for teachers regarding use of adopted program materials in English/Language Arts and Math
 - Refinement of use of regular student assessments to monitor progress and guide instruction
 - Focus teacher collaboration around adopted base program assessment results
 - Refine implementation of adopted math program

Larry Jones moved to approve the School Assistance Intervention Team Recommendations. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF LEASE-LEASEBACK AGREEMENT, SITE LEASE, SUBLEASE, AND GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR CONTRACT OF CONSTRUCTION WITH ORAL E. MICHAM, INC. FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY

Enclosure Number 38 was taken out of order to accommodate guests that were in attendance for this agenda item. At the Board meeting on November 13, 2007, the Board authorized staff to negotiate appropriate agreements with Oral E. Micham, Inc. for development of the Highland Elementary Multi-Purpose Building Project under a lease-leaseback delivery method. Working through legal counsel as well as the other members of the VUSD facilities development team, the appropriate agreements and documents have been drafted. This is the final formal action required of the Board to initiate the construction of the Highland project. The guaranteed maximum price of the project is \$3,725,000, approximately \$273 per square foot.

Michael Lane moved to give approval to executive the various documents with Oral E. Micham, Inc. to move ahead with the Highland Elementary Multi-Purpose Building Project. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**MULTI-PURPOSE
BUILDING PROJECT**
Motion No. 82

**2007-2008 FIRST
INTERIM
FINANCIAL REPORT**
Motion No. 83

Christine Statton, Chief Financial Officer, and Clarise Dilbeck, Budget Manager, presented a summary of the 2007-2008 First Interim Financial Report. (Encl. No. 36)
The District has a positive projection for meeting its financial obligations at year-end and for the next two subsequent fiscal years.

Donna Martin moved to approve the 2007-2008 First Interim Financial Report. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

**FIRST INTERIM
REPORT –
INTERNAL AUDITOR
ENC 37**
Motion No. 84

David Loverin, Internal Auditor, presented the First Interim Report. It has been the practice of the Internal Audit Department to report to the Board on a periodic basis regarding the status of internal audits and other projects concerning the District. This periodic report presents internal audits and reviews, financial reporting, compliance procedures, and other miscellaneous projects and research conducted by this department during this period.

Rodney Elder moved to approve the First Interim Report. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2008, 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