

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The August 24, 2010 Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Jim Qualls 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>
Tim Chaney	5:30	9:00	
Rodney Elder	5:30	9:00	
William A. Fulmer	5:30	9:00	
Larry Jones	5:30	9:00	
Donna Martin	5:30	9:00	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	9:00	
Charles Ulmschneider	5:30	9:00	
 Dr. Craig Wheaton, Superintendent	 5:30	 9:00	

Staff Members

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
Pam Ryan, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office
Travis Beck, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

President Qualls 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 (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 RECOMMENDED REINSTATEMENTS
- 2.4 RECOMMENDED CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Cindi Costa
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - 1. CSEA
 - 2. VUTA
 - 3. Management
- 2.6 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION – SUPERINTENDENT

**EARLY BIRD
SESSION**

The Early Bird Session opened at 6:30 p.m.

**INTRODUCTION/
OATH OF OFFICE/
INSTALLATION OF
STUDENT**

Drew Sorensen, Area Superintendent, presented the new 2010-2011 student representatives to the Visalia Unified School District School Board. (Encl. No. 1) The following new student representatives took the Oath of Office administered by Mr. Sorensen:

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

Travis Beck – Redwood
Ben Hash – Golden West
Jennifer Taylor – Mt. Whitney
Samuel Jung – El Diamante

REGULAR SESSION The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. President Qualls announced that no action was taken in closed session. Travis Beck, Student Representative to the Board, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/
PUBLIC INTEREST
ANNOUNCEMENTS/
STATUS REPORTS/
ACTION** (as applicable)

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

Steven Miller – spoke to the Board on behalf of the National Junior Basketball (NJB) League regarding the use of the District’s gyms, Golden West High School in particular. Drew Sorensen, Area Superintendent, will work with Steven Miller and the Athletic Directors.

VUSD SUMMER SCHOOL REPORT – AUGUST 2010

Drew Sorensen, Area Superintendent, presented the VUSD Summer School Report – August 2010. (Encl. No. 2) At the conclusion of each summer, District leadership reviews the progress of students enrolled in the Extended Year Program offered by middle and high schools. The program review requires a look at both school systems and student achievement as these relate to the implementation of a successful summer intervention program. Specific data was collected and shared with the Board and the community. The on-going review of school programs, including the Extended Year Program, results in improvements to curriculum, the instructional program, student learning, and school systems.

VUSD 2010 SUMMER FACILITY PROJECTS REPORT

Joe Haley, Director–Administrative Services, presented the VUSD 2010 Summer Facility Projects Report. (Encl. No. 3) The Administrative Services Division has been involved in numerous facilities construction, repair, refurbishing, and upgrade projects over the past several months. These projects covered a full range of in-house and contracted trades:

- Painting
- Plumbing
- Roofing
- Electrical
- HVAC
- Concrete Paving
- Asphalt Paving
- Flooring
- Interior Renovations
- Indoor Air Quality

- Irrigation
- Tree trimming

All projects were paid for with one-time facilities dollars, deferred maintenance money, stimulus funding, and a couple of the projects were paid from site money.

**GOSHEN FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER
UPDATE**

Doug Bartsch, Area Superintendent, presented the Goshen Family Resource Center Update. (Encl. No. 4) As a review, the building was donated to the District to provide social services to the community of Goshen. During the summer months, District staff has been in contact with two non-profit organizations to bring services to the families of Goshen in that facility. The first is Family Services of Tulare County, who in the past, has provided many services in that building. The District's interest was to provide continuity so that those services could continue. In tonight's Routine Action section, there is a contract with them for Board approval. Staff continues to be in conversation with representatives from the Hispanic Roundtable. They are considering whether the facility is the best place for the services they want to provide or perhaps another location in the Goshen area.

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

Travis Beck, Student Representative to the Board from Redwood High School, gave a brief summary of the events that are taking place at each of the high schools.

The Board members' reports included the following:

- Charles Ulmschneider
 - Commented on book he is reading--*Separate But Equal-Desegregation of American's Schools*
 - Commented on the Peer Assistance and Review Program (PAR)
 - Attended a meeting with CSBA Region VIII schools
- Tim Chaney
 - Looking forward to visiting schools
- Rodney Elder
 - Interested in seeing facility improvements that were done over the summer
 - Read positive newspaper article on the new Visalia Technical Education Center (VTEC)
- Donna Martin
 - Congratulated principals for getting the school year off to a good start
- Larry Jones
 - Visited Charter Alternatives Academy-Union and Mt. View Elementary School
 - Thanked Kindergarten teachers for coming to school before their contract started to meet their students and parents
 - Our student representative to the Board, Travis Beck, is #14 on the Redwood football team
 - Discussed parking problems at the new Visalia Independent Charter School (VCIS). Robert Gröeber stated that the District is working through the problems.

- Bill Fulmer
 - Visited Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
- Jim Qualls
 - Welcomed classified, certificated, and administrators back to school
- Superintendent Craig Wheaton
 - Held first public budget study session for 2011-12
 - Invited parents and the community to attend the next budget study session on Tuesday, September 21 in the Board Room at 6:00 p.m.
 - Times-Delta newspaper will have an article soon on the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) results that are now public. VUSD continues to exceed the numbers from last year
 - API test results should be out in a couple of weeks
 - Last week was the first newspaper article on the standards test results
 - All show continued growth in the District

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT
LEARNING**
Presentation/Public
Comment/Board
Discussion/ACTION
(as applicable)

**HIV/AIDS
SUPPLEMENTAL
MATERIALS FOR
GRADES 7-12**

Stacey Curschman, Director 7-12 Curriculum – Instructional Services, reviewed the HIV/AIDS supplemental materials for Grades 7-12. (Encl. No. 5) At the end of May, the California State Department of Education conducted a Categorical Program Monitoring Review. The HIV/AIDS prevention instructional categorical program received three findings which lead to a timeline for resolving those findings and demonstrating to the state that the District has taken steps in the direction of resolving those findings. The three findings had to do with professional development for staff, medically accurate and current instructional information for teachers to use, and consistent instructional delivery. In efforts to meet state requirements for age appropriate curriculum in HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction for the students of Visalia Unified School District, secondary curriculum staff brought forward for Board approval new supplemental materials for use in middle and high school classrooms. This material has been reviewed by curriculum staff, teachers, and community members and is aligned to local and state standards, meets Education Code requirements, and supports the instructional goals of the District.

The staff brought for Board approval the “Positive Prevention for Middle and High Schools” supplemental materials that are produced by the American Red Cross, distributed by the San Bernardino County Office of Education, and is recommended by the state.

Donna Martin moved to approve the “Positive Prevention for Middle and High Schools” supplemental materials. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

ROUTINE ACTION President Qualls announced that two Routine Action Items were revised after the Board agenda packets were distributed—8.2.2 Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 13) and 8.2.3 Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 14). The revisions were distributed to the Board members and the public at tonight’s meeting.

Tim Chaney moved to approve the Routine Action Items, Encl. No. 6-23. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

8.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List – July 29, 2010 through August 13, 2010 (Encl. No. 6)
2. Change Order #1 – Mt. Whitney Parking Lot Project (Encl. No. 7)
3. Change Order #3 – Bid #4707 Mt. Whitney High School Concrete Improvements Project (Encl. No. 8)
4. Change Order #1, #2 – Bid #4708 Asphalt Resurface & Repair Project at Various Sites (Encl. No. 9)
5. Change Order #1 – Bid #4718 Irrigation Improvements at Mt. Whitney High School (Encl. No. 10)
6. Notice of Completion – Mt. Whitney High School Parking Lot Project (Encl. No. 11)

8.2 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 12)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 13)
3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 14)
4. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for 2010-11 (Encl. No. 15)
5. Resolution Authorizing Differential Pay for Employee on Military Leave (Encl. No. 16)

8.3 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 17)
2. Save the Children Support to Goshen Elementary School (Encl. No. 18)
3. Administrators Training Program (Encl. No. 19)
4. Supplemental Educational Service (SES) Providers (Encl. No. 20)
5. Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) Memorandums of Understanding for Oak Grove, Royal Oaks, and Washington Elementary Schools (Encl. No. 21)
6. Kagan Cooperative Learning Workshop (Encl. No. 22)
7. Contract with Family Services of Tulare County (Encl. No. 23)

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION
EXPULSIONS** Donna Martin moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 11-06 E, Case No. 11-07 E, Case No. 11-08 E, Case No. 11-09 E, Case No. 11-10 E, Case No. 11-11 E, Case No. 11-12 E, and Case No. 11-13 E. (Encl. No. 24) Tim Chaney seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS** Bill Fulmer moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 11-03 SE, Case No. 11-04 SE, Case No. 11-05 SE, and Case No. 11-06 SE. (Encl. No. 25) Tim Chaney seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

REINSTATEMENTS Charles Ulmschneider moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Reinstatements Case No. 11-35 R, Case No. 11-36 R, Case No. 11-37 R, Case No. 11-38 R, Case No. 11-39 R, and Case No. 11-40 R. (Encl. No. 26) Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**RECOMMENDED
CONTINUED
EXPULSIONS** Donna Martin moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendation for Continued Expulsions Case No. 11-02 RCE. (Encl. No. 27) Tim Chaney seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**RESOLUTION ON
SUFFICIENCY OF
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS** Dr. Todd Oto, Area Superintendent – Secondary, and Jayne Forbes, Library Media Manager, PreK-12 – Instructional Services, presented the Resolution on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials. (Encl. No. 28) In order to be eligible to receive instructional materials funds, the Governing Board is required to hold an annual public hearing and adopt a resolution stating whether each pupil in the District has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials in specified subjects that are aligned to the academic content standards and consistent with the content and cycles of the curriculum frameworks adopted by the state board. The specified subjects are Mathematics, Science, History – social science, and English Language Arts, including the English language development component of an adopted program.

There was no public comment in the public hearing.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the Resolution on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials. Tim Chaney seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVISED
STRUCTURE FOR** Dr. Oto also presented the Revised Structure for ROP/ROC Governance. (Encl. No. 29) The report provided updated information regarding the recent changes in the Tulare

ROP/ROC
GOVERNANCE

County Office for Vocational Education (TCOVE) governance. TCOVE ROP provides vocational programs that augment existing vocational offerings in ten school districts, including Visalia Unified. District programs are designed to be self-supporting based on funding received from student hourly attendance. The presentation outlined TCOVE ROP courses offered by Visalia Unified for 2010-2011.

Previously, the TCOVE governance system was housed and administered through the program office on Mooney Boulevard. That office is now closed. Porterville Unified School District is now the designated lead school district. The new TCOVE Director is Robert Land, Assistant Principal at Harmony Magnet School in Porterville. The benefits of the revised structure for the ROP/ROC governance includes reduced operating costs for TCOVE with the reduction of three part-time positions and two clerical staff, none of which were Visalia Unified employees. The reduction in administrative costs will be passed along to participating districts.

Rodney Elder moved to approve the update on the revised structure for ROP/ROC governance. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON
FOREIGN
LANGUAGE
OFFERINGS AT
COMPREHENSIVE
HIGH SCHOOLS

Drew Sorensen, Area Superintendent, presented the update on foreign language offerings at comprehensive high schools. (Encl. No. 30) The update included the numbers of students who are currently taking particular foreign languages as well as the number of students who have taken foreign languages previously offered but were discontinued and the rationale for this.

Public Comment

Karl Kildow, VUTA President, asked if there was data on what the pre-registration number was for the years that were reviewed. Drew Sorensen stated that the pre-registration figures are not kept, only the registration numbers.

Charles Ulmschneider stated that he is an advocate for German, which he feels is the third language and if marketed correctly, the numbers would be higher.

Bill Fulmer stated that he is also an advocate of foreign language and if the district had more money, he would strongly support more foreign language courses. He does not believe the District can afford that right now.

Donna Martin echoed Bill Fulmer's comments because the budget is a big concern. She would like to revisit the foreign language offerings annually.

Jim Qualls stated that it is unfortunate that the District does not have the funds to offer all the programs he would like to see in the schools.

Superintendent Wheaton stated that everyone would like to offer multiple offerings of languages. The District would like to offer more drafting, more CTE. We would like for our students to have all the choices that are out there. Different choices attract different students. But it comes down to numbers and dollars and cents—quality versus quantity. With the current deficit, the District needs to strengthen programs that are in

place, make sure the French remains viable, and study the offerings over the next few years. Then when the District is able financially, look at expansion of course offerings.

DECLARATION OF
NEED FOR FULLY
QUALIFIED
EDUCATORS
(REVISED)

An updated Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators attachment was distributed to Board members before the meeting and made available to the general public. It was corrected after the Board agenda packet was distributed. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development, Cindi Costa, presented the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators (Revised). (Encl. No. 31) Every effort is made to employ only fully qualified and credentialed certificated staff. A Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators was adopted at a public meeting by the Board on May 25, 2010. This Declaration must be in place if we find that after a diligent search, we must hire some teachers under provisional or emergency permits. A recent change in credential requirements for current special education teachers requires fully credentialed teachers to add an Autism Spectrum Disorder Authorization to their credential. To remain compliant while completing this requirement, these credentialed teachers must obtain a Limited Assignment Permit. The revised Declaration of Need reflects this additional need.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators (Revised). Tim Chaney seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Jones, Martin, and Qualls. Abstain: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

BOARD
ATTENDANCE AT
THE ANNUAL
CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION
(CSBA)
CONFERENCE HELD
IN SAN FRANCISCO
DECEMBER 2-4, 2010

Superintendent Wheaton stated that recently he had made a recommendation regarding the attendance of the annual California School Boards Association (CSBA) conference to be held in San Francisco, December 2-4. (Encl. No. 32) His recommendation was to continue the same procedure as in the past, that the Superintendent, Board president, and Board member Martin, being a Delegate to the CSBA Assembly, attend with the registration and hotel to be paid by the District, but travel and meals would be paid by the individuals attending. After hearing from several Board members wanting to discuss this further, the item was placed on the Board agenda to get a consensus of who should attend and what costs should be covered.

Board discussion:

Bill Fulmer stated that he believes it is a valuable trip. His first year when he was a new Board member, the District paid the expenses. Last year, he paid the total amount himself. This year, it does not work for him to pay for it, so he does not feel it is appropriate for him to attend with the budget difficulties.

Tim Chaney stated that he attended last year's conference as a new Board member, and it was very instructional but learned more "on the job". He agrees with Mr. Fulmer that it is expensive. Rooms are \$239 per night and conference registration is \$425. He believes he is ready to continue his job as Board member without attending the CSBA conference, however, it would be helpful. If the District was not in a financial crisis, he would consider it. If you do your homework, read your agenda packet, read the briefs, and talk to the people that are working in the District, he thinks Board members can survive without that training.

Larry Jones stated that the budget is tight. In the past, the District has split the cost with the Board members attending. It is important to attend the CSBA conference, but not every year. He stated that the second year may be more valuable than the first year because you understand more of what they are presenting. There are issues with the budget that will make it important to attend. He believes that if the District pays for the registration, the Board member should pay for the hotel and travel. It is important to attend to get the information to make the good decisions.

Charles Ulmschneider stated that both of the newly elected Board members last year had not participated as official Board members since they attended the conference on December 5 and were seated on the Board on December 8. He feels they both need the experience for good governance. He does not have the money to attend and perhaps it should be determined by financial need and priority. If that is the case, then Superintendent Wheaton makes the most money. Donna Martin is a CSBA Delegate, that is about CSBA and not our students. He strongly feels that each Board member should have the prerogative of going to support good governance. He is opposed to the recommendation.

Rodney Elder stated that he agrees totally with Tim Chaney. He agrees that going to the CSBA conference is interesting. You can learn some things and get a little bit of information. Donna Martin has received more gems because of being the CSBA Delegate. CSBA offers a course in Board governance, "Masters in Governance". CSBA also sends out a regular email that has information, and their website has training that you can sign up for. In terms of finances, he feels there are teachers that would love to go to conferences and training, and they do not have a lot of money either. This is something the Board member stipend should be used for. The Board agreed last year on the attendance and payment and nothing has changed.

Jim Qualls stated that last year, he also paid for the entire conference himself. This is an extremely difficult year. His concern is that the District has a newly hired Superintendent and believes it is important for him to go and that the District pays for his fees for everything. Donna Martin is the first VUSD CSBA Delegate to the Assembly in which we should take pride in, respect, and support. He believes the remainder of the Board should pay their own fees and expenses because of the stipend that is received. Tulare County sponsors a "Governance 101" that is informative. TCOE sponsors a Fall Institute also. There are local conferences that cost very little that Board members can sign up for and participate.

Tim Chaney moved that Superintendent Wheaton and Donna Martin attend the CSBA conference with the District picking up all of the costs. Any additional Board members that would like to attend would attend it at their own expense. He amended his motion so that mileage and food would not be paid by the District, but registration and the hotel would be paid by the District. Bill Fulmer seconded the amended motion.

Board discussion:

Charles Ulmschneider asked that Tim Chaney clarify why Donna Martin and Superintendent Wheaton would be paid for by the District, but based on need, the Board

members would not be paid by the District. He asked what the other Board members are expected to pay, regardless of their economic situation.

Tim Chaney stated that the District has asked the unions to give and they have given graciously. Although he was not a sworn Board member when he attended the CSBA conference last year, he did attend and attended every class every day. He agrees with what Jim Qualls said that it is important to support Donna Martin as a CSBA Delegate to the Assembly member and pay for her registration and hotel. Craig Wheaton is the new Superintendent and needs to attend with the District paying for his registration and hotel. He does not feel that the District needs to incur anymore cost. Board members receive a stipend and are able to attend if desired but would have to pay their own way.

Vote: Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Jones, Martin, and Qualls. Oppose: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

BOARD CLARIFIES
TITLE OF
SUPERINTENDENT

Public Comment

Carlyn Lambert, retired VUSD Assistant Superintendent, spoke to the Board on the importance of local, public governance. Possibly CSBA could make arrangements to have training in Visalia. She also commended President Qualls in writing the letter attached to this agenda item referring to Dr. Craig Wheaton as Superintendent instead of Interim Superintendent. It is appropriate and sends a message that there is support at the Superintendent level. She asked the Board to consider how they can support the Superintendent so that he can support the schools to improve student achievement.

Superintendent Wheaton stated that good governance depends on the ability of the Board and Superintendent to communicate. It is the desire of the Board to maintain stability and confidence in District leadership during these unusual economic times. (Encl. No. 33) To support this concept, Board members would prefer that Dr. Craig Wheaton use the Title of "Superintendent" rather than "Interim Superintendent". This is not a change in contract language, term, or compensation.

Larry Jones moved to approve Dr. Wheaton using the title of Superintendent. Tim Chaney seconded the motion.

Charles Ulmschneider needed clarification why the title needs to be changed to Superintendent during this interim phase. What is important to him is Dr. Wheaton's contract. He stated that he was against the Area Administrators titles being changed to Area Superintendents. Words mean something. He does not go along with what has been going on for a long time in the educational community in Tulare County. He feels there are a lot of deep, profound problems that are underneath the surface that he is trying to get them to come out and they are starting to. Maybe we are seeing the tip of the iceberg. Interim gives the idea that the District will be looking for a permanent Superintendent. The word Superintendent does not.

Rodney Elder called for the question.

Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Jones, Martin, and Qualls. Opposed: Ulmschneider.
Motion carried.

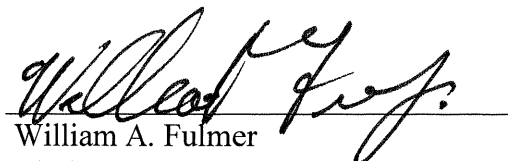
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 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,



William A. Fulmer
Clerk



Craig Wheaton, Ed.D.
Superintendent