

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The April 23, 2013 Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Tim Chaney 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	9:05	
Rodney Elder	5:30	9:05	
William A. Fulmer	5:30	9:05	
Donna Martin	5:30	9:05	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	9:05	
Charles Ulmschneider			X
Lucia Vazquez	5:30	9:05	
Dr. Craig Wheaton, Superintendent	5:30	9:05	

Staff Members

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

CLOSED SESSION

President Chaney identified the closed session topics listed below and called for public comment on the closed session items. There was no public comment. The Board adjourned to closed session.

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 RECOMMENDED CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
- 2.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957)
- 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 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Property: East side of Marcin Ct., North of Hurley Avenue two parcels consisting of 8.73 acres
APN #085-540-019 and 085-570-008
Agency negotiator: Robert Gröeber
Negotiating party: Teymour Farhang, Prudential California Realty
Under negotiation: Potential Purchase

REGULAR SESSION The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. President Tim Chaney announced that no action was taken in closed session. Charles Ulmschneider was absent. Tim Chaney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Public Comment

Melanie Kazmier, El Diamante High School PTSA member, thanked the Board for continuing to offer Drivers Education to high school students and requested options for students to take this class during non-school hours so that more core, science, and technology classes could be taken.

Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Principal of Redwood High School, introduced and recognized the ASB members and advisor, Isaac Lopez, for being named the Outstanding Leadership Program for the 2012-13 school year by the California Association of Student Leadership.

CONSENT AGENDA Monica Renegar, California School Employees Association (CSEA) President, stated that she participated in the School Bus Drivers' Appreciation activities today which included riding on a regular bus route and then the breakfast.

A revised Consent Agenda Item 4.3.1 Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 11) was distributed before the meeting. A student field trip was added after the board agenda packet was posted.

Rodney Elder moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items, Encl. No. 1-12 with the revised item 4.3.1 Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No.11). Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

4.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List – March 25, 2013 Through April 5, 2013 (Encl. No. 1)
2. 2012-13 Budget Revision No. 14 (Encl. No. 2)
3. VUSD General Fund Cash Flow Report as of March 31, 2013 (Encl. No. 3)
4. Approval of Bid 4776 to Purchase Three Delivery Trucks (Encl. No. 4)
5. Approval to Contract with Pre-Qualified Bounce House Vendors (Encl. No. 5)

4.2 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 6)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 7)
3. Certificated Personnel Report – Extended Year (Encl. No. 8)
4. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 9)
5. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for Spring 2012-13 (Encl. No. 10)

4.3 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 11)

4.4 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1. Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 26, 2013 (Encl. No. 12)

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION/
PROCLAMATIONS/
ACTION**

COMMUNITY PARTNERS RECOGNITION: KEN LANGE The VUSD Board of Education along with the Visalia Education Foundation recognized Mr. Ken Lange for having spent a considerable amount of time and his own money donating new and used musical instruments for use by Visalia Unified students. (Encl. No. 13)

NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY – MAY 8, 2013 May 8, 2013, is designated “National School Nurse Day”--a day that we voice our appreciation and recognize the nurses of Visalia Unified School District who, with care and compassion, meet the challenge of providing to the health needs of our students. (Encl. No. 14)

RESOLUTION – CALIFORNIA DAY OF THE TEACHER – MAY 8, 2013 The California Department of Education has designated May 8, 2013, as “California Day of the Teacher”. The classroom teacher is challenged daily to reach out to every student—regardless of ability, interest in learning, social or economic background, physical, mental, or emotional handicap, race, religion, creed, or ethnic origin—to provide the assistance and guidance necessary for full intellectual development. (Encl. No. 15)

Jim Qualls moved to approve the Resolution—California Day of the Teacher – May 8, 2013. Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION – CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEE WEEK – MAY 19-25, 2013 Classified employees serve in paraprofessional capacities providing direct assistance to certificated faculty, perform vital clerical and office support functions, are involved with cafeteria and other nutrition-related programs, provide school transportation services, and perform custodial services just to name a few of their many responsibilities. Efficient and effective support and supplementary services are essential ingredients to enable excellent teaching, sound administration, and high achievement by students. (Encl. No. 16)

Rodney Elder moved to approve the Resolution-Classified School Employee Week – May 19-25, 2013. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION – ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH- MAY 2013 The State of California is home to over 565,900 students of Asian and Pacific Islander descent from kindergarten through grade twelve. These students reflect the great diversity of culture and heritage of the many countries of Asia and the Pacific Islands. Despite the hardships and barriers they encountered, the people of Asia and the Pacific Islands who came to this country and their descendants have made substantial contributions to California’s economic growth and development and have woven clear, distinct threads into the State’s social fabric. (Encl. No. 17)

Donna Martin moved to approve the Resolution – Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month – May 2013. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUPERINTENDENTS' INTER-LEAGUE COUNCIL CENTRAL SECTION OF CALIFORNIA INTER-SCHOLASTIC FEDERATION POSITION STATEMENT

As an annual reminder, the VUSD Governing Board supports and encourages the Superintendents' Inter-League Council to work with California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) league representatives and all extra- and co-curricular advisors to resist any changes in league and section policies which further encroach upon classroom instructional time. (Encl. No. 18)

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the resolution in support of the position statement. Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

2013-14 HEALTH INSURANCE FUNDING RATE RENEWAL REPORT

As a part of the 2013-14 budget development process, District staff presented an overview of the VUSD insurance funding rates for the 2013-14 health plan year. The estimated increase for funding health benefits for certificated staff is 3.9%, classified staff (basic plan) is 4.2% and management staff is 4.3%. (Encl. No. 19)

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

UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE TO REFORM EDUCATION (CORE) DISTRICT-CONSORTIUM REQUEST FOR A FEDERAL NCLB WAIVER

The California Office to Reform Education (CORE) has submitted a district-consortium request for a federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) waiver. The CORE waiver calls for a reorientation of districts' work towards a collective effort to prepare all students for college and career, with districts assuming unprecedented accountability to eliminate disparity and disproportionality in all subjects and across the academic, social/emotional, and culture/climate domains. The staff presentation provided the Board with further information regarding the CORE waiver. (Encl. No. 20)

FOREIGN
LANGUAGE
TEXTBOOK
ADOPTION

In accordance with Ed. Code (60002, 60400) and BP 6161.1, Visalia Unified School District has provided teacher involvement in the review and selection of instructional materials for secondary foreign language classes and invited parent/community comment on foreign language materials. District staff recommended the adoption of the *Biet Dit* by Holt McDougal for French Courses and *Asi' se dice* by Glencoe. The adoption of the standards-aligned instructional materials would meet state and district mandates to ensure standards-based instruction aligned to Board adopted standards and materials. (Encl. No. 21)

There was no public comment.

Jim Qualls moved to approve the recommended purchase of new instructional materials for use in Foreign Language classes. Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

DISTRICT-WIDE
GOALS 2013-2014-
SECOND READING

The VUSD administration presented the second reading of the proposed District-Wide Goals for 2013-2014 school year, which were drafted to represent Board, staff, and community input. (Encl. No. 22)

There was no public comment.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the District-Wide Goals for 2013-2014 as presented. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

GREEN ACRES
EXTENSION
PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. Todd Oto, Area Superintendent, provided an informational update related to the Green Acres Middle School Extension Project. The project will relieve overcrowding at Green Acres Middle School through the establishment of seventh grade classes potentially at Oak Grove Elementary and Willow Glen Elementary. There is a potential for 1-2 classes of 7th grade students at Oak Grove and Willow Glen. The students will be considered Green Acres students and will engage in the same curriculum as the other middle schools. (Encl. No. 23)

Public Comment

David Alviso, an Oak Grove Elementary parent, asked if letters were sent out to the parents of affected students and for clarification on what extra-curricular activities would these seventh grade students be offered. District staff clarified that letters were sent and that the extra-curricular activities may be limited to before and after school.

Karl Kildow, President of the Visalia Unified Teachers Association (VUTA), questioned if the parents would be responsible for transportation to athletics and the annual play and staff answered that parents were responsible for that transportation. He also asked about class size, and Dr. Oto responded that a determination will depend on the final Willow Glen count before a judgment could be made.

SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Doug Bartsch, Area Superintendent, presented the Special Education Update regarding plans for providing support to some students with Autism beginning in August 2013 at the

UPDATE

Veva Blunt Elementary School where the Sycamore Valley Charter School was located. (Encl. No. 24)

There was no public comment.

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

Destiny Brazil, 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 high schools.

The Board members' reports included the following:

- Rodney Elder
 - Attended:
 - WASC three-year accreditation review for Visalia Charter Independent Study (VCIS)
 - Crystal Apple Awards Ceremony
- Bill Fulmer
 - Masons Public Schools Awards and Student Scholarship Night is Thursday, April 24 at 6:00 at the Visalia Masonic Temple
- Charles Ulmschneider
 - Absent
- Donna Martin
 - Started her day at 6:30 a.m. on a bus route to celebrate Bus Driver Appreciation Day and then breakfast to honor the VUSD bus drivers
 - Attended:
 - Annual California Scholarship Federation (CSF) Awards Luncheon
 - Crystal Apple Awards Ceremony
 - Toured Visalia Charter Independent Study (VCIS) and WASC accreditation
 - Met with Jim Sullivan to review a school plan sample as part of the Alternative Governance (AG) Board
- Lucia Vazquez
 - Congratulated school bus drivers
 - Attended the Golden West High School musical production of "42nd Street"
- Jim Qualls
 - No report
- Tim Chaney
 - No report
- Superintendent Wheaton
 - El Diamante High School was named a California Distinguished School. State Superintendent Torlakson will make the presentation in Visalia on May 31
 - CSF Seymour Memorial State Winner - Marly Carlisle, senior from Redwood High School, the first State winner from the Valley
 - Thanked bus drivers for safely transporting our students

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION
EXPULSIONS**

Jim Qualls moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 13-80 E, Case No. 13-81 E, Case No. 13-82 E, Case No. 13-83 E, Case No. 13-84 E, Case No. 13-85 E, Case No. 13-86 E, Case No. 13-87 E, and Case No. 13-88 E. (Encl. No. 25) Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS**

Lucia Vazquez moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 13-22 SE and Case No. 13-23 SE. (Encl. No. 26) Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Qualls, and Vazquez. Absent: Ulmschneider. Temporarily out of the room: Martin. Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDED
CONTINUED
EXPULSIONS**

Jim Qualls moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendation for Continued Expulsions Case No. 13-07 RCE. (Encl. No. 27) Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Qualls, and Vazquez. Absent: Ulmschneider. Temporarily out of the room: Martin. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

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

**LEASE LEASE-BACK
(LLB) SELECTION
FOR THE
SYCAMORE
VALLEY ACADEMY
FACILITY**

The District is taking steps to accommodate the Sycamore Valley Academy's (SVA) Prop 39 request for facilities and consolidate their classes onto a single campus. Staff has worked with SVA and agreed to accommodate that request on the Packwood School site on Avenue 280 and Road 68. In order to complete the needed renovations and improvements during this coming summer, staff recommended a Lease Lease-Back (LLB) partner be contracted at this time to participate in reviewing comments and changes recommend by State Division of State Architects (DSA) and California Department of Education (CDE) as SVA's plans move through the various State approvals. (Encl. No. 28) Forcum Mackey Construction was the recommendation from staff for the LLB partner.

Public Comment

Karl Kildow, VUTA President, asked for clarification on the District's responsibility to give upgraded facilities to a charter school and requested that this discussion be a part of the public record. Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent-Administrative Services, explained that "upgraded" is not the appropriate term but "reasonably equivalent facilities", and SVA has invoked their Prop 39 as a Charter School to require VUSD to provide them with a facility. Superintendent Wheaton stated that SVA would have chosen to stay at Veva Blunt Elementary but would need an additional five or six portable buildings to accommodate their school. District staff decided this was not

appropriate for the size of the site, and there was not another site available to add those portables to. SVA would have been spread among two or three different schools. The proposal has been a mutual agreement for VUSD to meet its obligation by providing them a site. If SVA had stayed at Veva Blunt School, the District would have paid for the portables. It is the District's responsibility under Prop 39.

Lucia Vazquez moved to approve the District staff's recommendation to enter into a contract with Forcum Mackey Construction as the LLB partner for the SVA facility project. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Qualls, and Vazquez. Noes: Martin. Absent: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

CABINET
REORGANIZATION

Superintendent Wheaton presented the Cabinet Reorganization. (Encl. No. 29) The reorganization of the senior cabinet staff includes the elimination of the Area Superintendent positions and the addition of two Assistant Superintendents of Instructional Services. During the 2012-2013 academic year, there were three Area Superintendent positions, one was held open due to economic uncertainties. The proposed cabinet structure would shift from two Assistant Superintendents and three Area Superintendents to four Assistant Superintendents. The reduction of one position would result in an ongoing financial savings.

There was no public comment.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the Cabinet reorganization as presented. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Martin, and Qualls. Noes: Vazquez. Absent: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT
AGREEMENT:
SUPERINTENDENT

The Board has conducted their evaluation of the Superintendent. In accordance with Board policy, the Board held a mid-year review of the Superintendent's progress on the District goals and objectives and has completed a year-end review and evaluation. (Encl. No. 30) The Board will prepare a written document reflecting this evaluation that will be presented to the Superintendent and placed in his official personnel file.

A summary of the contract is as follows:

- This will be the start of a three-year contract for the position of "Superintendent", which begins July 1, 2013 and ends June 30, 2016.
- All terms and conditions of the Superintendent's employment agreement remain the same as in previous Superintendent contracts.
- The Superintendent's salary schedule and step placement will be adjusted with the same adjustments (COLA); step increase) approved by the Board for all other management staff in the District.
- The Superintendent will be afforded health and welfare benefits consistent with all other District management staff including medical, dental, vision, employee assistance benefits and term life insurance including retiree benefits.
- The contract is subject to annual review and renewal.

Public Comment

Karl Kildow, VUTA President, asked for clarification on how many employees'

contributions to PERS or STRS are paid by the District. Cindi Costa, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources Development, stated there are three. If the next agenda item is approved, there would be five.

Bill Fulmer moved to ratify the contract for the Superintendent. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**EMPLOYMENT
AGREEMENTS:
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT,
ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES AND
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENTS,
INSTRUCTIONAL
SERVICES**

The Superintendent has conducted his annual evaluations. The Superintendent has prepared written documents reflecting these evaluations which will be placed in the official personnel files. Two additional contracts for Assistant Superintendents of Instructional Services in compliance with a reorganization for the Cabinet structure were presented. (Encl. No. 31)

A summary of the three contracts is as follows:

- Contracts will be for three-years for the position of "Assistant Superintendent", beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2016.
- All terms and conditions of the Assistant Superintendents' employment agreements are consistent with the previous agreements.
- The Assistant Superintendents' salary schedule will be adjusted with the same adjustments (COLA), if any, approved by the Board for all other management staff in the District.
- The Assistant Superintendents will be afforded health and welfare benefits consistent with all other district management staff including medical, dental, vision, employee assistance benefits and term life insurance including retiree benefits.
- Assistant Superintendents shall only advance one step on the salary schedule if a positive performance evaluation is received.
- The contract is subject to annual review and renewal.

There was no public comment.

Jim Qualls moved to approve the contracts for the Assistant Superintendents. Rodney Elder seconded the motion. Ayes: Chaney, Elder, Fulmer, Martin, and Qualls. Noes: Vazquez. Absent: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, 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,



Donna Martin
Clerk



Craig Wheaton, Ed.D.
Superintendent