

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The February 11, 2014 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>
John L. Crabtree	5:30	9:50	
William A. Fulmer	5:30	9:50	
Juan Guerrero	5:30	9:50	
Donna Martin	5:30	9:50	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	9:50	
Charles Ulmschneider	5:30	9:50	
Lucia Vazquez	5:30	9:50	
Dr. Craig Wheaton, Superintendent	5:30	9:50	

Staff Members

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
 Tamara Ravalín, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
 Doug Bartsch, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
 Dr. Todd Oto, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
 Pam Ryan, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office
 Destiny Brazil, 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 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 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957)
- 2.4 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Tamara Ravalín
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - 1. CSEA
 - 2. VUTA
 - 3. Management
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
 Property: Southeastern approximately 30-acre portion of Tulare County located near the northwest corner of N. Akers Street and W. Riggin Avenue in the City of Visalia
 APN 077-100-001
 Agency negotiator: Robert Gröeber

Negotiating parties: City of Visalia

Under negotiation: Potential Sale

2.6 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION – SUPERINTENDENT MID-YEAR REVIEW

REGULAR SESSION The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:10 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. President Jim Qualls announced that no action was taken in closed session. John Crabtree led the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

Rick Hamilton, Golden West High School Principal, recognized FFA students. For the third time in the last four years, students on the Golden West FFA citrus judging team are State champions. Golden West took two teams (Team A and Team B) to also compete individually. The Board congratulated the FFA students and staff for their dedicated work.

Leslie Ann Manzo, Mineral King Elementary parent, spoke about elementary curriculum and parent involvement. She will work with Doug Bartsch, Assistant Superintendent-Instructional Services.

CONSENT AGENDA A revision to Consent Agenda Item No. 4.2.2 – Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 6) was distributed before the meeting due to additions made to the report after the board agenda packet was posted.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items, Encl. No. 1-11 including the revised 4.2.2-Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 6). John Crabtree seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

4.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List – January 10, 2014 Through January 24, 2014 (Encl. No. 1)
2. 2013-14 Budget Revision No. 11 (Encl. No. 2)
3. Approval of Bid #4793 – New Relocatable Preschool at Crowley Elementary School (Encl. No. 3)
4. Approval of Resolution to Sell Property to the City of Visalia and Determination the Sale is Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Encl. No. 4)

4.2 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 5)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 6)
3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 7)
4. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for Winter/Spring 2013-14 (Encl. No. 8)

4.3 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 9)
2. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 10)

4.4 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1. Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings (Encl. No. 11)

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

**BEGINNING
TEACHER SUPPORT
AND ASSESSMENT
(BTSA) REPORT/
UPDATE**

In 2008, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) approved the BTSA program which provides individual professional development that supports, guides, and challenges new teachers over a two-year period. New teachers are matched with a support provider who guides them through job embedded activities which include classroom application of district curriculum training. These experiences are required by CTC for the Clear Credential. Over the past five years, BTSA has played an important role in meeting the District goals of recruiting and retaining high quality teachers and developing a sense of significance and belonging for staff. (Encl. No. 12)

**INITIAL
NEGOTIATION
PROPOSAL OF
VISALIA UNIFIED
TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION TO
VUSD FOR
2014-15**

VUTA President, Karl Kildow, presented the 2014-15 sunshine proposals to the Board for initial negotiations. Based on VUTA member surveys, the Association will seek to reopen Article V-Hours of Employment and Article VIII-Class Size. The initial contract proposal will be available for review in the office of the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development, until the next regular Board meeting on February 25. The Board will hold a public hearing at that meeting and allow the public to comment on the proposal prior to formally acknowledging receipt of VUTA's initial contract proposal. (Encl. No. 13)

**VUSD INTERESTS/
INITIAL PROPOSAL
FOR CERTIFICATED
NEGOTIATIONS**

The District's initial proposal to VUTA for 2014-15 contract negotiations includes opening the following articles:

- Article X – Salaries
- Article XII – Employee Benefits
- Article XIII – Grievance Procedure
- Article XIX – Due Process for Discipline Less Than Dismissal

The District's initial contract "interests" will be available for review in the office of the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development until the next regular Board meeting of February 25 at which time they will allow the public to comment on the "interests" submitted by VUSD prior to adopting its initial contract "interests". (Encl. No. 14)

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

**COMMON CORE –
TECHNOLOGY –
CHROMEBOOK
PURCHASES**

California has begun the multi-year process of transitioning to the nation-wide Common Core Standards to guide curriculum development and instruction. Starting in the 2014-15 school year, students will be tested on the Common Core State Standards while using computers only. District staff have researched various types of computers and have recommended purchasing Google Chromebook 14 computers for students to use. The District has received a special State allocation to be expended during the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years in support of the implementation of Common Core Standards. These funds (\$2.3M) would be utilized to increase student access to Internet-connected computers. School districts are lobbying for the Governor to address this in the May Revise of the State Budget for at least another one-time investment so that the District can make another large purchase. There are approximately 18,000 students that will be tested starting in the Spring. (Encl. No. 15)

Public Comment

David Alviso, asked what the shelf life of a Chromebook would be and if this is the best deal the District can get. Chuck Boone, Director-Technological Services, answered that the machines are not complex, they do not have any software on them, and have no moving parts. They are web driven and the software is always kept up to date. A four or five year life expectancy was estimated. The District looked at a number of sources for these devices to get the full range of services that would be needed for the students for the Spring testing.

Juan Guerrero moved to approve the purchase of the Google Chromebooks in the approximate amount of \$2.3M. Charles Ulmschneider seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**7TH GRADE PILOT –
K-8 MODEL**

Oak Grove and Willow Glen Elementary Schools are participating in a 7th grade pilot program to help relieve Green Acres Middle School of overcrowding. Input from current 6th and 7th grade parents, teachers, and principals was compiled resulting with a recommendation to expand the pilot program to a K-8 model. More information will be presented at the next Board meeting. (Encl. No. 16)

Public Comment

Wendy Miller, parent of two students at Redwood High School, asked for clarification on how the K-8 model would affect the new middle school opening in Northwest Visalia in 2016 regarding student placement and how this solves overcrowding problems at Redwood. Superintendent Wheaton replied that the purpose of the K-8 pilot is to address the current overcrowding at Green Acres and is not intended to improve any long term crowding. New schools will need to be built for that.

The District will move forward with the next phase to recruit and see what the need is for parents and then report back to the Board.

**BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS/**

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.

SUPERINTEN- DENT'S REPORT

The Board members' reports included the following:

- John Crabtree
 - Attended
 - Hurley School Site Council meeting
 - Oak Grove PTA meeting
 - Visalia Technical Early College (VTEC) Advisory Board
 - Green Acres "High School Musical"
 - Toured Crestwood, Linwood, and La Joya Schools
 - Lunch with 500 7th graders
 - Walk-through with Mr. Bartsch at Goshen School
- Bill Fulmer
 - Attended
 - Green Acres "High School Musical"
 - Redwood parents met with Principal Marroquin regarding flextime
 - Forum for Advanced Scholarship and Academics (FASA)
 - Hispanic Advisory Committee
 - VTEC Advisory Board
 - Executive Committee
- Lucia Vazquez
 - Attended
 - Redwood Challenge Day
 - Mt. Whitney's musical "Annie"
 - Green Acres "High School Musical"
 - Visited after school programs
 - Visited Redwood and Mt. Whitney High Schools
 - Finance Committee
 - Hispanic Advisory Committee
 - Will attend Redwood's musical "Little Women"
 - Will attend CTA dinner
- Charles Ulmschneider
 - No report
- Donna Martin
 - Local Control Funding Formula workshops in Fresno March 4
 - Asked for Board's vote for the CSBA Delegate Assembly
- Juan Guerrero
 - Requested a board resolution in support of agriculture
 - Requested information on the current parent education programs that are being offered and the rotations
- Jim
 - No report
- Superintendent Wheaton
 - No report

ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL RECOM- MENDATIONS/

ACTION

EXPULSIONS

Lucia Vazquez moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendation for Expulsions Case No. 14-27 E. (Encl. No. 17) Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

SUSPENDED

EXPULSIONS

Charles Ulmschneider moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendation for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 14-13 SE. (Encl. No. 18) John Crabtree seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL AGENDA

Review/Public Hearing/

Public Input/

Board Discussion/

ACTION (as applicable)

GRANT WRITING SERVICES PROGRESS REPORT

At the August 27, 2013 meeting, the Board voted to enter into an agreement with California Consulting for grant writing services working with their representative, Jessica Rowley. At this time, Jessica Rowley is no longer an employee of California Consulting. Juan Garza, Chief Operating Manager with California Consulting, and Tristan Shamp, Grant Manager, presented the mid-term progress report for grant writing services. (Encl. No. 19)

Public Comment

Jessica Rowley, spoke to the Board stating that she and her husband are also available for grant writing in the future.

The current contract with California Consulting is through September 2014. Superintendent Wheaton will work with Juan Garza with California Consulting to clarify the transition.

REVIEW DESIGNS FOR VOTING SCOREBOARD

At the request of the Board, staff presented possible designs that could be used to identify the voting of each Board member on motions brought forward during Board meetings. (Encl. No. 20) Staff will continue to research other designs.

2014-2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR – FIRST READING

The proposed calendar for 2014-2015 was reviewed and approved by the Visalia Unified Teachers Association and closely mirrors the current year calendar. Staff continues to support the three-week winter break and completing the first semester prior to winter break for secondary students. This is the first reading. The second reading will be included in the board agenda for February 25 for consideration of Board approval. (Encl. No. 21)

2014 CSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY ELECTION

The California School Boards Association (CSBA) will be electing two representatives to serve from April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 on the Delegate Assembly for Subregion 12A, Tulare County. VUSD Board Member, Donna Martin, is currently on this committee and has filed the necessary documents for re-election. Richard Morris,

Porterville Unified School District Board Member, is also on the ballot. The Board could vote for two. (Encl. No. 22)

Lucia Vazquez moved to vote for both Donna Martin and Richard Morris for the Delegate Assembly. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Vazquez. Noes: Ulmschneider.

RE-ADOPT
PROFESSIONAL
GOVERNANCE
STANDARDS –
SECOND READING

The Board conducted the annual review of their Professional Governance Standards. These standards serve as a framework for clarifying the Board member’s role and responsibilities and have been developed through extensive state and national research identifying the essential practices and characteristics of effective and successful public school board governance. Through adoption of their Professional Governance Standards, the Board renews its commitment to serve in an effective and successful governance model. At the January 28 meeting, the Board discussed and made revision recommendations to the “VUSD Governance Team Standards: Protocols & Agreements” which were made. This was the second reading. (Encl. No. 23)

Bill Fulmer moved to adopt the Professional Governance Standards and the VUSD Governance Team Standards, Protocols & Agreements. John Crabtree seconded the motion.

After discussion, it was agreed upon to remove the third bullet: “A trustee is one of seven; they do not make decisions alone.”

Bill Fulmer withdrew his motion.

Lucia Vazquez moved to adopt the Professional Governance Standards and the VUSD Governance Team Standards, Protocols & Agreements with the removal of the third bullet sentence: “A trustee is one of seven; they do not make decisions alone.” Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

VUSD REVISION
TO BB 9220 –
GOVERNING
BOARD ELECTIONS-
SECOND AND FINAL
READING

BB 9220-Governing Board Elections - Second and Final Reading (Encl. No. 24) The revised policy reflects updated official boundaries of the District, which are those set forth in the full and correct transcript of the boundaries maintained in the Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Office and the Office of the County Clerk of Tulare County.

CSBA REVISION
TO BB 9223 –
FILLING
VACANCIES –
SECOND AND FINAL
READING

BB 9223-Filling Vacancies – Second and Final Reading (Encl. No. 25) At the first reading, a revision was made to BB 9223(b) section “c” to read: “For federal military deployment, not to exceed an absence of a total of “one year” (replacing “six months”), as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the California National Guard”.

Donna Martin moved to approve BB 9220-Governing Board Elections (Encl. No. 24) and BB 9223-Filling Vacancies (Encl. No. 25) as one vote. Charles Ulmschneider seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION –
BOARD MEMBER
ATTENDANCE

In accordance with Board Bylaw 9250 – Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits, the Board is required to approve a resolution to authorize compensation for a Board member who missed a meeting because he/she was performing other designated duties on behalf of the District at the time of the meeting, was ill or on jury duty, or had another hardship deemed acceptable by the Board. Board member Donna Martin was unable to attend the January 28 regular board meeting due to a family hardship. (Encl. No. 26)

Charles Ulmschneider stated, “I don’t know if you, regarding attendance, if you received from the HR the Ed Code 44987.3 for release time from where I am working, but the HR person did send it to Ms. Ravalín, and so I want to make sure all of the Board members have it and I have a copy and I will give it to you regarding the, it’s in Ed Code 44987.3 for my release time from there, that we reimburse such as our employee union officials too here.”

President Jim Qualls stated, “So, Mr. Ulmschneider, you say that you live up in Stockton and you work up in Stockton but you would like to receive your stipend,

Charles Ulmschneider, “No.”

President Jim Qualls, “and pay for the substitute teacher to replace you while you come down and fulfill your duties as a board member here in Visalia.”

Charles Ulmschneider answered, “No I am not. I would like you to read, for you to see 44987.3”

President Jim Qualls, “Then clarify it.”

Charles Ulmschneider, “and it was a request from Stockton Unified for my sub.”

Superintendent Wheaton stated that the District could bring that request for the Board’s consideration at the next meeting. The District has called Stockton Unified to investigate the dates and exactly what their request was. The District will look at the Education Code. This could be brought to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

Charles Ulmschneider, “I looked in our board policies and it pretty involved with AR 4161.2/4261.2/4361.2. It is quite involved.”

President Qualls, “But what you are trying to state is you are asking our school district to reimburse a substitute teacher in Stockton.”

Charles Ulmschneider, “It’s in the law.”

President Qualls, “It’s in the law?”

Charles Ulmschneider, “Yes. That’s what we need to, Dr. Wheaton just said he needs time to look at again and research it.”

President Qualls, "I am moving to the coast."

Charles Ulmschneider, "No, sir, I work out of county. I live here in this city."

President Qualls, "You live here?"

Charles Ulmschneider, "I live here and don't imply otherwise."

President Qualls, "Do you live here tonight? Did you live here last night?"

Charles Ulmschneider, "This is my home of residence. I work out of the county, and I have a long commute."

President Qualls, "I am sorry, I am a little bit harsh. I am just frustrated."

Juan Guerrero moved to approve the Resolution-Board Member Attendance for Donna Martin's absence on January 28 due to a family hardship. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Qualls, Ulmschneider, and Vazquez. Abstain: Martin. Motion carried.

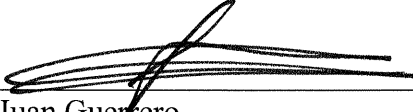
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.


NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, 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,



Juan Guerrero
Clerk



Craig Wheaton, Ed.D.
Superintendent