

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

**BOARD STUDY SESSION**

The September 23, 2014 Board Study Session opened at 4:00 p.m. Board members and administrators toured The Lisa Project that was sponsored by Visalia Unified School District at the Golden West High School. The Lisa Project Exhibit is a ten minute interactive experience about child abuse prevention.

**OPENING BUSINESS**

The September 23, 2014 Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 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	4:00	9:10	
William A. Fulmer	4:00	9:10	
Juan Guerrero	4:00	9:10	
Donna Martin	4:00	9:10	
Jim L. Qualls	4:00	9:10	
Charles Ulmschneider	5:50	9:10	
Lucia D. Vazquez	5:15	9:10	
 Dr. Craig Wheaton, Superintendent	 4:00	 9:10	

**Staff Members**

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
 Tamara Ravalín, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development  
 Dr. Todd Oto, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services  
 Pam Ryan, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office  
 Kati Ann Kochevar, 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.

- 3.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 3.2 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957)
- 3.3 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54957.6)
  - 1. Agency Negotiator: Tamara Ravalín
  - 2. Employee Organizations
    - 1. CSEA
    - 2. VUTA
    - 3. Management
- 3.4 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
 Property: 4930 West Kaweah Court, Visalia, CA 93277  
 APN 087-470-001-000

Agency negotiator: Robert Gröeber  
Negotiating parties: Mike Porte, Grubb & Ellis Real Estate  
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 Jim Qualls announced that no action was taken in closed session. John Crabtree led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** There was no public comment at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA** Charles Ulmschneider pulled Consent Agenda Item 5.2.2 – Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 8).

John Crabtree moved to approve the remaining Consent Agenda Items, Encl. No. 1-19. Bill Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Item 5.2.2 – Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 8) Charles Ulmschneider stated that he will be voting “no” because he has questions that he will submit to Human Resources Development later.

Bill Fulmer moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 5.2.2 – Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 8). John Crabtree seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Vazquez. Noes: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

5.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1. Warrant List – September 1, 2014 Through September 5, 2014 (Encl. No. 1)
2. 2014-2015 Budget Revision No. 4 (Encl. No. 2)
3. Emergency Repair Resolution for Valley Oak HVAC – Building 3 (Encl. No. 3)
4. Approval of Contract with Mangini Associates Inc. for New Elementary School at Giddings and Shannon Parkway (Encl. No. 4)
5. Lease Agreement for VCIS – 750 S. Mooney Boulevard (Encl. No. 5)
6. Notice of Completion for the VTEC Dairy Plant Reconstruction (Encl. No. 6)

5.2 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 7)
2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 8)
3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 9)
4. Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coach List for Fall 2014-15 (Encl. No. 10)

5.3 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 11)
2. Local Education Agency Plan (LEAP)/Parent Involvement Plans/Single School Plans for Student Achievement (SSPSA) (Encl. No. 12)

3. Agreement Between Visalia Unified School District and Visalia Chamber of Commerce (VCC) – Implementation of Linked Learning and Work-Based Learning (WBL) (Encl. No. 13)
  4. Carl Perkins Grant Consortium Agreement with Central Unified School District and Delano Joint Union High School District (Encl. No. 14)
  5. Agency Agreement Special Friends Grant (Encl. No. 15)
  6. Supplemental Educational Service (SES) Providers (Encl. No. 16)
  7. Addendums to the Visalia Unified School District PULSE Program and Pro-Youth HEART After School Partnership Program Agreement (Encl. No. 17)
- 5.4 SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE
1. Minutes of the Board Meeting of August 26, 2014 (Encl. No. 18)
  2. Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings (Encl. No. 19)

**PUBLIC  
RECOGNITION/  
PROCLAMATIONS/  
ACTION**

RESOLUTION –  
CHARACTER  
EDUCATION  
MONTH-OCTOBER  
2014 AND  
*CHARACTER  
COUNTS!* WEEK  
OCTOBER 19-25,  
2014

An effective character education program requires an intentional, proactive, consistent, and comprehensive approach that promotes a common core of personal and social values in all phases of school life, a core that includes trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, civic virtue, honesty, and personal responsibility. (Encl. No. 20)

Charles Ulmschneider moved to adopt the Character Education Month – October 2014 and *Character Counts!* Week October 19-25, 2014 Resolution. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

PARENT  
UNIVERSITY  
UPDATE  
2014-2015

Based on the Visalia Unified School District’s Parent Involvement Plan, Visalia Unified Parent University offers several parent education courses. The goal of Parent University is to engage, connect, and empower parents to support their children’s education. Parents are actively recruited to attend programs offered at elementary and secondary schools. Parent University includes programs that help parents learn how to work with their students emphasizing social, emotional, and academic needs. Each school in the District has participated in a parent education offering within the three rotation model of Parent University. (Encl. No. 21)

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

**STUDENT  
ADVOCACY AND  
FAMILY  
ENGAGEMENT  
PROGRAM**

While collecting community input for developing the District's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) over the past year, the following results were a prevalent part of the data that was gathered:

- Provide advocacy for students and parents by providing
  - bilingual support
  - help to families/students/community to connect to schools
  - resources and information to students and families to help them be successful
- Increase student attendance

Earlier this year, the Board approved establishing a team (the Student Advocacy and Family Engagement (SAFE) Program) to strengthen the systems that were already in place. The mission of the SAFE Program is to support VUSD's students academically, socially, and emotionally by providing opportunities for families to understand how to engage in their child's education and by providing information and resources to help students and families become self-reliant. (Encl. No. 22)

The SAFE Team is made up of:

- 25 Elementary SAFE Specialists
- 4 District Liaisons
- Attendance Officer
- State & Federal Projects Manager
- 4 Student Engagement Assistant Principals

**ELEMENTARY  
ENGLISH/  
LANGUAGE ARTS  
IMPLEMENTATION  
UPDATE**

In preparation for this year's implementation of California's new English/Language Arts Standards, the VUSD Board approved the adoption of new books and materials for grades kindergarten through six in June 2013. Teachers received the materials in the Fall of 2013 and were given the freedom to transition to the new materials during the 2013-14 school year. This year all K-6 teachers are designing instruction based upon the new standards. A presentation provided the positive implementation progress report through the eyes and experience by the following four elementary teachers: (Encl. No. 23)

- Kristen Murphy – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Annie R. Mitchell
- Raquel Rivas – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Four Creeks
- Joseph Lamb – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Royal Oaks
- Cathy Smith – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Cottonwood Creek

**BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS/**

Kati Ann Kochevar, 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.

## **SUPERINTEN- DENT'S REPORT**

The Board members' reports included the following:

- John Crabtree
  - VTEC is already breeding champion livestock
  - Attended:
    - Green Acres Middle School fund raiser for The Little Theatre
    - Board Study Session on Restorative Justice
    - Two board policy sessions
    - Education Forum Advisory
    - Sequoia High School Healthy Family Program
  - Site visits:
    - Shannon Ranch and Royal Oaks Elementary Schools with Doug Bartsch
  - CSBA webcast update on Common Core and LCFE
  - Toured Tech Services with Chuck Boone
  - VTEC dairy almost ready to produce milk
  - Participated in The Lisa Project
- Lucia Vazquez
  - Participated in The Fit Study
  - Attended:
    - Tulare County Fair
    - Two board policy sessions
    - Hispanic Advisory
  - Visited
    - Sequoia High School
  - Met with VUTA for coffee to talk to special education teachers
  - Requested that a board member take her place on the Facilities Committee
- Charles Ulmschneider
  - No report
- Donna Martin
  - Attended
    - The Lisa Project at Golden West High School
    - Board policy meeting
- Bill Fulmer
  - Visited
    - VTEC and the dairy program
    - The Lisa Project
    - Green Acres Middle School Garden Party
    - Board policy meeting
    - DELAC meeting
- Juan Guerrero
  - Attended
    - Board policy meeting
    - DELAC
    - Green Acres Middle School Foundation fund raiser
    - Study Sessions – PBIS – Restorative Justice
    - Coffee with special education instructors

- The Lisa Project
    - Golden West High School football game
  - Jim Qualls
    - Attended
      - Green Acres Middle School Garden Party Fund Raiser for The Little Theatre
      - Special Board Meeting
      - Board policy committee
      - The Lisa Project at Golden West High School
    - Met with special education teachers
  - Superintendent Wheaton
    - Looks forward to hearing a report from one of the board members that attended the special education meeting

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

Charles Ulmschneider moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No. 15-03 E, Case No. 15-04 E, and Case No. 15-05 E. (Encl. No. 24) Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
PROPERTY  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

The Superintendent's Property Advisory Committee was initially formed with the intent of developing a process to include community members to assist the District in making the best possible judgments about the use of excess school properties and to provide assistance that the decisions made by the District would be compatible with the community's needs and desires. The report reviewed the current property discussions by the Committee and provided an update to the Board on the District's property holdings. (Encl. No. 25)

**RESOLUTION ON  
SUFFICIENCY OF  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
MATERIALS**

Education Code Section 60119 establishes requirements that must be met in order to be eligible to receive funds pursuant to the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program Act. The Board is required to hold a public hearing to make a determination, by resolution, as to whether or not each pupil in each school in the District has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials that are aligned to content standards adopted by the State Board of Education. (Encl. 26)

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At 8:39 p.m., President Qualls closed the General Session and opened a Public Hearing.

**Public Comment**

Lupe Wong, a VUSD parent, received clarification on taking textbooks home, consumable textbooks, and information on who to contact at the elementary, middle school, and high schools for textbook questions.

President Qualls closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the General Session.

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

WAIVER FOR  
PHYSICAL FITNESS  
TESTING FOR  
VISALIA UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STUDENTS  
PARTICIPATING IN  
THE FIT STUDY

The University of California-Berkeley, invited Visalia Unified School District to participate in The Fit Study. The research involves determining the impact of parental knowledge of the Body Mass Index (BMI) on child health. District staff requested a public hearing and Board approval for a waiver of the body composition component of the State physical fitness testing program for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years for 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Annie R. Mitchell, Mt. View, Pinkham, Royal Oaks, and Willow Glen Elementary Schools, and La Joya Middle School. (Encl. No. 27)

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At 8:55 p.m., President Qualls closed the General Session and opened a Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

President Qualls closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the General Session.

Lucia Vazquez stated that she will be abstaining from the vote because she was employed by the University of California-Berkeley to collect data for this project.

John Crabtree moved to approve the Waiver for Physical Fitness Testing for VUSD Students Participating in The Fit Study. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Ulmschneider. Abstain: Vazquez. Motion carried.

CHARTER  
RENEWAL –  
CHARTER  
ALTERNATIVES  
ACADEMY (CAA)

Parents, educators, and the Visalia Unified School District established Charter Alternatives Academy (CAA) in 1999 currently located at the former Union Elementary School and serves at-risk youth in grades 6-12. CAA exists to reconnect, rehabilitate, and reinstate students. The approved charter renewal will be for a period of five years through the 2018-2019 school year. (Encl. No. 28)

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At 9:02 p.m., President Qualls closed the General Session and opened a Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

President Qualls closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the General Session.

Juan Guerrero moved to approve the charter renewal for Charter Alternatives Academy (CAA). John Crabtree seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

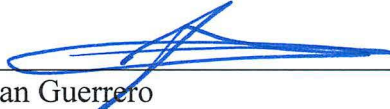
**ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

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