

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The November 10, 2015, Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Juan Guerrero 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 D. Vazquez	5:30	9:50	
 Dr. Craig Wheaton, Superintendent	 5:30	 9:50	

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Tamara Ravalín, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
Dr. Todd Oto, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
Delia Smart, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office
Tyler Kennedy, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

President Guerrero 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 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT/REASSIGNMENT/APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957)
 - Interim Superintendent
- 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

REGULAR SESSION

The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. President Juan Guerrero announced that the Board took the following action in closed session. On a motion by Board Member Crabtree and seconded by Board Member Fulmer, the Board voted 6-1 in favor to appoint Dr. Todd Oto as the Interim Superintendent effective January 1, 2016. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Vazquez. Noes: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

President Guerrero shared the following statement:

Dr. Oto will begin this position as Dr. Wheaton transitions to the position of Deputy Superintendent for the Tulare County Office of Education.

Dr. Oto has worked in the Visalia Unified School District for 28 years. He began his career at Mt. Whitney High School in 1987 as a drafting teacher and held this position for 12 years. Dr. Oto then served as an Intern Instructional Dean at Mt. Whitney High School, became an Assistant Principal at Redwood High School for five years, Principal of Sequoia High School for two years, and Principal of Redwood High School for four years. He worked as an Area Superintendent for three years supervising secondary education and then became an Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services.

Dr. Oto received his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the UC Davis/CSU Fresno joint doctoral studies program. He earned a Master's Degree from CSU Fresno in Educational Leadership and holds a bachelor's degree in History and Industrial Education.

John Crabtree led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Lucia Vazquez pulled Consent Agenda Item 4.4.3 – Record of Board member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings (Encl. No. 12)

Juan Guerrero pulled Consent Agenda Item 4.3.1 – Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 8)

William Fulmer moved to approve the remaining Consent Agenda Items, Encl. No. 1-13. Charles Ulmschneider seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 4.3.1 – Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 8)

Juan Guerrero stated that he would abstain.

Superintendent Wheaton announced that a revision was made to Consent Agenda Item 4.3.1 – Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 8) and it was distributed at the meeting because changes were made after the Board agenda packet was posted:

John Crabtree moved to approve Item 4.3.1 - Student Field Trip Requests with revisions. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Martin, Qualls, Ulmschneider, and Vazquez. Noes: None. Abstain: Guerrero. Motion carried.

Item 4.4.3 – Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings (Encl. No. 12)

Lucia Vazquez requested that the Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings be corrected. She was absent from the regular Board

meeting on October 13, 2015, and it lists the absence as a “Discretionary Day”. This is only the second meeting she has missed in four years, and she was absent on October 13, 2015, because of a conflict with work. She requested that the October 13, 2015, absence be corrected to read “Hardship due to work”.

Jim Qualls moved to amend and accept the correction to Item 4.4.3 - Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings. John Crabtree seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Ulmschneider. Noes: None. Abstain: Vazquez. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC
RECOGNITION/
PROCLAMATIONS/
ACTION**

RESOLUTION - THE
DAY OF THE
SPECIAL
EDUCATOR,
DECEMBER 2, 2015
(Encl. No. 14)

The California Department of Education recognizes December 2 as Special Education Day, the Day of the Special Educator. President Gerald Ford signed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), into law on December 2, 1975. Special Education Day- December 2, first celebrated in 2005, annually marks that signing.

There was no public comment.

Jim Qualls moved to approve Resolution – The Day of the Special Educator, December 2, 2015. Donna Martin seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

LOCAL CONTROL
ACCOUNTABILITY
PLAN (LCAP)
PROGRESS REPORT
(Encl. No. 15)

Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) requires a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The LCAP is required to identify goals and measure progress for student subgroups across multiple performance indicators. Jim Sullivan, State and Federal Projects Director, provided the Board with an update of the measures used in VUSD’s LCAP and an overview the activities that are included in plan, the yearly review process and timelines. This was an information only item.

There was no public Comment.

**FOCUS ON
STUDENT
LEARNING
Presentation/Public
Comment/Board**

Discussion/ACTION

(as applicable)

ANNUAL HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (Encl. No. 16)

Dr. Tamara Ravalin, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Development, provided the Board with a report related to all aspects of the HRD Division, including data related to the VUSD District-Wide Goals for 2015-16. Included in the report were student and staff demographics, hiring data, staff training, and other pertinent general information. This was an information only item.

Public Comment:

Dr. Juan Lopez, community member, asked that the HRD report be made available on to VUSD website so the community may have access to it. Dr. Ravalín replied that it would be placed on the VUSD website.

EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS BLOCK GRANT – FIRST READING (Encl. No. 17)

Dr. Tamara Ravalín provided an overview of the 2015-16 California Budget Act’s Educator Effectiveness Block Grant, which allocates \$1,466 per certificated staff directly to LEA’s to promote educator effectiveness. Local districts are required to invest these funds in professional development opportunities that improve the instructional capacity of teachers, the leadership capacity of administrators, and the teaching and learning cultures of California schools.

Currently, the LCAP funds 137 teachers in induction and PAR; and VUSD has budgeted for 100 teachers for teacher support for 2015-16 in LCAP funding. The Teacher Effectiveness Block Grant will relieve the 2015-16 LCAP budgeted funds, a total of \$963,768. This was a first reading only. The second and final reading will go to the Board for approval at the December 8, 2015, Board meeting.

There was no public comment.

WORLD LANGUAGE UPDATE (Encl. No. 18)

Jeff Hohne, Area Superintendent of Instructional services, provided a report regarding Foreign Language offerings at each of VUSD’s comprehensive high schools. Currently, two foreign languages--French and Spanish—are offered at the high schools. The overall foreign language enrollment is 3,836, an increase of +196 students over last year. At the middle schools, La Joya offers two classes of Spanish 1. The goal for 2016-17 is to offer one to two sections of Spanish 1 at the other middle schools—Divisadero, Green Acres, and Valley Oak. This was an information only item.

There was no public comment.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Tyler Kennedy, 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:

- John Crabtree
 - Visited the following sites and/or events:
 - Lip Sync Show at Hurley Elementary School

- Parents and Pastries Day at Crestwood Elementary
 - PTA Presidents and Principals Luncheon at the District Office
 - Visalia Adult School Visitation
 - Redwood High School Visitation
 - Cottonwood Creek Elementary Visitation
 - Washington School Elementary Visitation
 - TCOE's Excellence in Education Awards Breakfast
 - Masters in Governance – Course #3 at TCOE
 - Visalia Partners in Education (VPIE) Board Meeting
 - Redwood High School Site Council Meeting
 - Shannon Ranch School Site Council Meeting
 - Board member tour of the new middle school
- Charles Ulmschneider
 - No report.
- Jim Qualls
 - Participated in Masters in Governance – Course #3 at TCOE. Thanked Dr. Tamara Ravalín and Nathan Hernandez, who also attended, for their help with questions in between discussion.
- Donna Martin
 - Attended the PTA Presidents and Principals Luncheon at the District Office
- Bill Fulmer
 - Visited the following sites and/or events:
 - TCOE's Excellence in Education Awards Breakfast
 - Visalia Partners in Education (VPIE) Board Meeting
 - PTA Presidents and Principals Luncheon at the District Office
 - Board member tour of the Maintenance Department
- Lucia Vazquez
 - Visited the following sites and/or events:
 - Sequoia High School Visitation
 - Golden West High School to see kitchen and music room renovations. Also had conversation with dance instructor and watched a one-act in the Drama Department while there.
 - Hispanic Community Advisory Committee Meeting
 - She is hoping to schedule a tour of the new middle school
- Juan Guerrero
 - Visited the following sites and/or events:
 - Fresno State Leadership Summit
 - Parent meeting with Fairview parents
 - Community Conversation at College of the Sequoias with COS President/Superintendent Stan Carrizosa and FSU President Joseph Castro
 - Visalia Partners in Education (VPIE) Board Meeting
 - PTA Presidents and Principals Luncheon at the District Office
 - TCOE's Excellence in Education Awards Breakfast
 - Masters in Governance – Course #3 at TCOE
- Superintendent Wheaton
 - Reminded all of the upcoming Special Board Meeting on November 17, Student Achievement Awards.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION**

RECOMMENDED
EXPULSIONS
(Encl. No. 19)

Juan Guerrero pulled Case No. 16-12 E and stated that he would abstain.

Charles Ulmschneider moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsion Case No. 16-11 E (Encl. No. 19). Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

John Crabtree moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsion Case No. 16-12 E (Encl. No. 19). William Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Martin, Qualls, Ulmschneider, and Vazquez. Noes: None. Abstain: Guerrero. Motion carried.

GENERAL AGENDA

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

COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT –
ADVISORY
PARTICIPATION
(Encl. No. 20)

There are a variety of active advisory committees that engage community members in shaping the policies and procedures of the school district. The report, provided by Superintendent Wheaton, reviewed the standing community committees, their purpose, membership, and frequency of meetings. This was an information only item.

There was no public comment.

FACILITIES UPDATE
(Encl. No. 21)

Measure E projects, the Glendale and Giddings Elementary School, and Sequoia High School are all in varying stages of development. Jeff Ramsay, Director of Administrative Services, provided the Board with a report to address the current status of Measure E projects, regarding state funding, and the projects that will be moving forward while we await the results of the bond measure on the 2016 election ballot. The Board discussed the Glendale and Giddings Elementary school and delivery method for opening the campus in August of 2017 and were provided with an update of the design of the new Sequoia High School campus. The Board was asked to approve the outlined plan:

- Measure E Projects – proceed with design
- Glendale & Giddings Elementary – competitive Lease-Leaseback
- Sequoia High School – continue with master planning
- New High School – start RFQ process
- Staffing – hire project manager and secretary

Juan Guerrero asked that an agenda item be placed on a future Board meeting agenda regarding the proposed master plan to have Charter Alternatives Academy on the same campus as Sequoia High School. Some board members expressed concern regarding this plan and would like to have an agenda item to discuss their concerns.

The Board asked for a written opinion from the district's legal counsel regarding the competitive lease-leaseback method the district uses. They would like some type of assurance that the Visalia Unified School District lease-leaseback method is what they are recommending and that it is legal.

Donna Martin asked Robert Gröeber to send the Board the link to the CSBA Lease-Leaseback webcast that was shared at the Board meeting.

www.csba.org/TrainingAndEvents/OtherTrainingOpportunities/20151021LegalUpdate.aspx

Public Comment

Tim Caffee, VUSD Maintenance Department employee, asked if there was a typo on the slide for Operations, Custodial and Grounds to move over to Mooney by Sequoia High School. He expressed concern with potential parking issues. Jeff Ramsay, Director of Administrative Services, replied that the overall goal is to have all of Maintenance and Operations at one site. Maintenance would be moved where Custodial and Grounds is--opening up that space. We are still going through that master plan process and that is why we are looking for approval from the Board to continue plans for that site.

Juan Guerrero asked that the *Financial Impact* information be included on the BAI (Board Agenda Item) form in the future for transparency purposes.

John Crabtree moved to approve the outlined plan:

- Measure E Projects – proceed with design
- Glendale & Giddings Elementary – competitive lease-leaseback
- Request Legal Opinion from district's legal counsel regarding lease-leaseback
- Sequoia High School – continue with master planning
- New High School – start RFQ process
- Staffing – hire project manager and secretary

Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO EMPLOY
CERTIFICATED
PERSONNEL AND
APPROVAL OF
VARIABLE TERM
WAIVER REQUEST
FOR SINGLE
SUBJECT SCIENCE
TEACHER (Encl. No.
22)

Prior to submitting a Variable Term Waiver Request to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, a notice of intent to employ an individual on the basis of a credential waiver must be published in the Board agenda, and approval granted by the governing Board.

There was no public comment.

Charles Ulmschneider asked that he and/or the Board be informed on what college the candidate(s) has attended.

John Crabtree moved to approve the Notice Of Intent To Employ Certificated Personnel And Approval Of Variable Term Waiver Request For Single Subject Science Teacher. Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO EMPLOY
CERTIFICATED
PERSONNEL AND
APPROVAL OF
PROVISIONAL
INTERNSHIP
PERMIT REQUESTS
(Encl. No. 23)**

The Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) was created to meet the needs of the District if, after a diligent search has been made, a fully-credentialed teacher cannot be found. The attached request is for one Provisional Internship Permit for the 2015-16 school year in a difficult to fill position. The District has conducted an extensive search for a qualified applicant. The candidate has met the requirements established by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to receive this permit. The candidate will be completing the requirements to demonstrate subject-matter competency.

Lucia Vazquez moved to approve the Notice Of Intent To Employ Certificated Personnel And Approval Of Provisional Internship Permit Requests. Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 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



Todd Oto, Ed.D.
Superintendent