

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

**OPENING
BUSINESS**

The February 9, 2016, Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President John Crabtree 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	8:58	
William A. Fulmer	5:30	8:58	
Juan Guerrero	5:30	8:58	
Donna Martin	5:30	8:58	
Jim L. Qualls	5:30	8:58	
Charles Ulmschneider	5:30	8:58	
Lucia D. Vazquez	5:30	8:58	
 Dr. Todd Oto, Superintendent	 5:30	 8:58	

Staff Members

Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Tamara Ravalín, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Development
Delia Smart, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent's Office
Jeff Wheeler, Student Representative

CLOSED SESSION

President Crabtree 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 ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant Exposure to Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b))
One potential case

REGULAR SESSION

The Board convened the regular Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. President John Crabtree announced that no action was taken in closed session.

Jeff Wheeler, Student Representative to the Board, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT**

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA
(Encl. No. 1-14)

William Fulmer moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items, Encl. No. 1-14. Juan Guerrero seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - 4.1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
 1. Warrant List – January 18, 2016 Through January 29, 2016 (Encl. No. 1)
 2. 2015-2016 Budget Revision No. 11 (Encl. No. 2)
 3. 2016-2017 Budget Calendar (Encl. No. 3)
 4. Contract Approval for Synovia Solutions Inc. (Encl. No. 4)
 5. Contract Approval for Frog Environmental (Encl. No. 5)
 - 4.2 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 1. Classified Personnel Report (Encl. No. 6)
 2. Certificated Personnel Report (Encl. No. 7)
 3. Consultant Contracts (Encl. No. 8)
 4. Certification of Volunteer Athletic Team Coach List for Winter/Spring 2015-16 (Encl. No. 9)
 - 4.3 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES
 1. Student Field Trip Requests (Encl. No. 10)
 2. Request to Attend Conference/Workshop (Encl. No. 11)
 3. Kaweah Delta Healthcare District Contract (Encl. No. 12)
 - 4.4 SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE
 1. Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 12, 2016 (Encl. No. 13)
 2. Record of Board Member Attendance for Regular and Special Board Meetings (Encl. No. 14)

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

**GRADES 1-6
PHYSICAL
EDUCATION
MONITORING
REPORT**
(Encl. No. 15)

Visalia Unified School District provides 200 minutes of Physical Education instruction every ten school days for students in Grades 1-6. Documentation for the monitoring process includes posting of schedules, principal on site visits, teacher verification and a report to the Governing Board each semester. Samantha Tate, Curriculum Director, provided a report that outlines the monitoring process and information adhering to the Physical Education requirements as required by state law. This was an information only item.

There were no comments from the public.

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

ALL DAY
KINDERGARTEN AND
TRANSITIONAL
KINDERGARTEN FOR
2016-2017
(Encl. No. 16)

Jacque Gaebe, Area Superintendent of Instructional Services, provided the Board with a report regarding the program development and summary of all-day kindergarten and transitional kindergarten (TK) for 2016-2017. Potential changes to the TK program include options to cluster TK students into one kindergarten class, curriculum that bridges to kindergarten standards and professional development to address specific needs to TK students. The district seeks to expand all-day kindergarten district-wide. This was an information only item.

Public Comment:

Greg Price, VUTA President, stated that the teachers' association is very interested in improving the early childhood experience for all kids. In addition to that, they would like to be front and center with the decisions that are made and implementation. He acknowledged Jacquie Gaebe and Judy Burgess for including him in a couple of meetings and discussions regarding implementation of TK and all-day K. The teachers would like for TK to be clustered and would like lower class sizes. He also expressed a concern regarding children with behavioral issues and would like for the Board to work with staff to address this concern.

LOCAL CONTROL
ACCOUNTABILITY
PLAN (LCAP):
PROGRESS REPORT
(Encl. No. 17)

Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) requires a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). Jim Sullivan, Director of State and Federal Projects, provided the Board with information regarding the LCAP community engagement plan for the development of the 2016-2017 LCAP. This was informational only item.

There were no comments from the public.

UPDATE ON ONLINE
EDUCATION IN
VISALIA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT
(Encl. No. 18)

Michelle Reid, Visalia Charter Independent Study Principal, provided the Board with an update on the current status of the online education opportunities at the high schools. Online classes serve Visalia students and families, keep VUSD students in VUSD, allow flexible schedules for students, are common core aligned, offer face-to-face support with our online teachers and tutors, and there is an extension of activities through science labs. This was an information only item.

There were no comments from the public.

NAMING OF NEW
MIDDLE SCHOOL –
FIRST READING
(Encl. No. 19)

In August, 2016, the community of Visalia will celebrate the opening of a new middle school. As per Board Policy, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed and was responsible for receiving and screening school name suggestions and submitting the recommendations to the Board for its consideration and approval. Melanie Stringer, Area Superintendent of Instructional Services, provided the Board with a report that included the process that was used by the committee resulting in the recommendations that were presented.

School Name Options

- Option 1: Ridgeview Middle School – Raptors
- Option 2: Blue Ridge Middle School – Condors
- Option 3: Tule Middle School – Coyotes

School Color Options

- Orange and White
- Purple and White (from staff discussions: purple and white is recommended)

This was a first reading only. The Board will review the recommendations and take action to select a school name, color and mascot at the February 23, 2016.

There were no comments from the public.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/ SUPERINTEN- DENT'S REPORT

Jeffrey Wheeler, Student Representative to the Board from Golden West 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
 - He read the Wall Street Journal article that was forwarded by John Crabtree. It was very informative and hopes other board members have a chance to read it.
- Lucia Vazquez
 - Events attended:
 - Special Board Planning Session on January 22 & 23, 2016
 - New middle school Ad Hoc Committee meetings
 - El Diamante High School Drama production *Catch Me If You Can*
 - Visalia Civic Board Meeting and was elected clerk
 - Had meeting with kindergarten parent
 - Board Policy Committee
 - Went to Sequoia High School to coach the Joven Noble graduates
 - Requested someone sign her up for the Biggest Loser at VCIS and looks forward to seeing the baby lambs.
 - She wished everyone a happy Valentine's week.
- Jim Qualls
 - Site Visits:
 - Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
 - Goshen Elementary School
 - New middle school
 - Events attended:
 - Elane Geller, who is a holocaust survivor, presentation at El Diamante High School
 - Special Board Planning Session on January 22 & 23, 2016
- Bill Fulmer
 - Site Visits:
 - Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
 - Goshen Elementary School
 - New middle school
 - Events attended:
 - Ad Hoc Committee meeting for new middle school
 - Facilities Advisory Committee
 - Board Policy Committee
 - Golden West High School Drama production: *High School Musical*
 - Superintendent's Farewell Reception
- Juan Guerrero
 - Site Visits:
 - Crestwood Elementary School
 - Events attended:
 - City of Visalia Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Visalia Emergency Communications Center
 - CSBA Masters in Governance at TCOE
 - Board Policy Committee - HRD
 - He requested a reply to an email that was sent to the superintendent regarding preschool charters.

- Donna Martin
 - She acknowledged and welcomed the group from the Leadership Visalia that was in attendance at the Board meeting.
- John Crabtree
 - Site Visits:
 - Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
 - Goshen Elementary School
 - New middle school
 - Events attended:
 - Elane Geller, who is a holocaust survivor, presentation at El Diamante High School
 - Secretaries training
 - VPIE Meeting
 - Finance Advisory Committee
 - Hispanic Community Advisory Committee
 - Golden West High School Drama production: *High School Musical*
 - Executive Committee
 - CSBA Board President’s Workshop in Sacramento
 - CSBA Masters in Governance at TCOE
- Superintendent Oto
 - Visited staff development activities across the district on February 8. It was great to see staff involved and becoming better teachers. He received great feedback from the activities that he saw and activities across the district. He thanked principals, district staff, and teachers for being taking part.
 - VUSD is deep in musical season; encouraged all to see one of the upcoming shows.
 - He spent time with staff and administrators at a Professional Learning Communities (PLC) training in Phoenix, Arizona. The PLC initiative is important to VUSD.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
PANEL RECOM-
MENDATIONS/
ACTION**

**RECOMMENDED
EXPULSIONS
(Encl. No. 20)**

Juan Guerrero moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Expulsions Case No.16-32 E, 16-33 E, and 16-34 E. William Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

Charles Ulmschneider asked to pull case 16-34 E but it was explained to him by Board President Crabtree that a motion, a second and vote had already been done. Mr. Ulmschneider asked that the minutes clearly note that he intended to pull and abstain on case 16-34 E.

**RECOMMENDED
SUSPENDED
EXPULSIONS
(Encl. No. 21)**

Jim Qualls moved to accept the Administrative Panel Recommendations for Suspended Expulsions Case No. 16-07 SE. William Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

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

2016-2017 SCHOOL
CALENDAR – FIRST
READING
(Encl. No. 22)

John Crabtree announced that a revised 2016-2017 School Calendar was distributed at the meeting due to corrections made after the Board agenda packet was posted.

The proposed calendar for 2016-2017 has been 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. The revised calendar reflects those interests and was presented for a first reading. The second and final reading will go to the Board for a second and final reading at the February 23, 2016, Board meeting.

There were no comments from the public.

VUSD 2016 SUMMER
FACILITY PROJECTS
PREVIEW (Encl. No. 23)

Jeff Ramsay, Director of Administrative Services, provided the Board with a report that summarized the various facilities projects planned for this coming summer. These include projects from Routine Restricted Maintenance, Deferred Maintenance, other miscellaneous maintenance funds, and Measure E. Some of the projects completed with Measure E funds will undoubtedly spill over into the coming school years as they will take longer to complete than the summer's "40 days and 40 nights" will allow. Staff will also review delivery methods planned for these projects. This was an information only update.

Public Comment

Tim Caffee, Maintenance Department staff member and CSEA Lead Negotiator, shared his concerns with not receiving the board packet and the Golden West High School HVAC units. He asked about any plans to resolve the HVAC issues. District staff provided him with information for the modernization of the HVAC units, which includes going to package units throughout the entire site and shared that state funding is needed before proceeding with the modernization.

Greg Price, VUTA President, stated that were some issues with air conditioning last year. He is wondering if any of those projects are on and if there are any long-term plans to fix the issues. He thanked Robert Gröeber for his quick replies when he sends him questions, and his teachers are still waiting on answers on asbestos tiles at that school. He also asked for a timeframe when the issues would be fixed. District staff provided him with the district's plans to address the issues with the HVAC units. The timeline for the projects is summer 2017.

2014-2015 ANNUAL
DISTRICT FINANCIAL
AUDIT (Encl. No. 24)

Nathan Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer, provided the report regarding the 2014-15 Annual District Financial Audit. The District must, on an annual basis, have its financial statements audited by an independent audit firm in order to meet federal and state requirements. The auditor's report includes the auditor's findings, recommendations and opinions. In the auditor's opinion, the District's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Visalia Unified School District, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective

changes in financial positions and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

There were no comments from the public.

Juan Guerrero requested that a representative from the auditing firm be present in the future to present the report. He requested that Nathan Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer, communicate that message to the firm.

William Fulmer moved to accept the 2014-2015 Annual District Financial Audit. Lucia Vazquez seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

STRATEGIC
PLANNING: BOARD
PLANNING SESSION
(Encl. No. 25)

The Board recently began its annual strategic planning in January 2016. Further strategic planning will occur on March 1, 2016. Superintendent Oto provided the Board with information related to that planning session. As part of the continued strategic planning, input will be gathered from a community panel, parent survey, and staff survey. This was an information only item.

After brief Board discussion, Superintendent Oto stated that he would email the suggested community panel list that has been put together by the Board sub-committee. Board members are to review the list and email him as soon as possible any other names that they would like added to the list. He would like to limit the list to 16 people.

There were no comments from the public.

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO EMPLOY
CERTIFICATED
PERSONNEL AND
APPROVAL OF
PROVISIONAL
INTERNSHIP PERMIT
REQUESTS
(Encl. No. 26)

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 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.

There were no comments from the public.

Charles Ulmschneider moved to approve the Notice Of Intent To Employ Certificated Personnel And Approval Of Provisional Internship Permit Requests. William Fulmer seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

2016 CSBA DELEGATE
ASSEMBLY ELECTION
(Encl. No. 27)

The California School Boards Association (CSBA) will be electing two representatives to serve from April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2018, on the Delegate Assembly for Sub-region 12-A, Tulare County. Lucia Vazquez (Visalia Unified School District) and Pete Lara, Jr. (Porterville Unified School District) are on the ballot.

There were no comments from the public.

Donna Martin moved to vote for Pete Lara, Jr. (Porterville Unified School District) and Lucia Vazquez (Visalia Unified School District). Jim Qualls seconded the motion. Ayes: Crabtree, Fulmer, Guerrero, Martin, Qualls, and Vazquez. Noes: Ulmschneider. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 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