

**COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

745 Tenth Street

Colusa, CA 95932

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

January 21, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

OPEN SESSION CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Colusa Unified School District Conference Room by Board President Charles Yerxa, and established a quorum was present. Attending were Charles Yerxa, Kelli Griffith-Garcia, Lincoln Forry, Don Bransford and Terry Bressler. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dwayne Newman, and Business Manager Sheryl Bailey; students and staff. School Administrators Jody Johnston, Dave Tarr and Darren Brown were absent.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Taylor Davies led the Pledge of Allegiance.
HEARING OF PUBLIC	Mike West, Assistant Principal at Colusa High School, announced he is running for Colusa County Superintendent of Schools.
STUDENT'S REPORT	Taylor Davies reported on upcoming activities at Colusa High School, which included basketball homecoming week, senior project deadlines and sports highlights.
RECOGNITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS	This month the following were honored for making the district better in some way: In the absence of the Principals Mr. Newman presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Ms. Johnston, Egling Middle School Principal, to Gavin Gerrard who was instrumental in planning and organizing the painting of Egling's playground lines and Nicholas Moresco who planned and organized the planting of new plants and putting bark in the flowerbeds in the front of Egling Middle School.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	None
BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME	None
ESTABLISH BOARD COMMITTEES FOR 2014	The board elected to keep the same board representatives for the following committees: CRAF – Charles Yerxa; FOM – Don Bransford; FOA – Lincoln Forry and Kelli Griffith-Garcia; Grounds – Lincoln Forry and Terry Bressler and SELPA – Don Bransford and Terry Bressler.
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvement Plan Progress Update: The survey went out to staff last week and they have until the end of this week to complete the survey. It will tell us how we're progressing as far as building a professional learning community. The next step on our improvement plan is to start building a plan for next year.</li><li>• Governor's Budget initial budget proposal: Mr. Newman reported the news has been good with regards to the Governor's budget. He said we would probably be getting anywhere between a 8.8% – 10.2% budget increase next year. Mr. Newman said we are finally in a good place to start expanding student services to kids next year. Sheryl attended a budget workshop and learned that the Governor's main objective is money for education but not new programs. He's concentrating on the LCFF and student achievement. Sheryl said all consulting firms are advising districts have a 3% reserve plus 1 year's</li></ul>

growth, which per our budget, is 1 million dollars next year. Mr. Newman does not agree with that theory. He thinks that's encouraged just in case the bottom falls out of the economy. A discussion was held. Mr. Newman wants it in Policy to determine what a reasonable amount over the 3% reserve will be and stick to that amount.

- SELPA Update: Mr. Newman reported we received an official notice from the County saying they will no longer administer the SELPA as of June 30, 2015. He stated we need to think about revising the SELPA for moving the SELPA under the umbrella of a surrounding SELPA based on what happens with the election. With a new superintendent of schools and a rewrite of the governance section it will save everybody a lot of time and effort and have a highly functioning governance section. Mr. Newman stated if we move the SELPA from Colusa to a surrounding county, we will be drain over \$380,000 a year from our local economy. He thinks we need to look at every opportunity we can to keep that from happening. Mr. Bransford suggested Mr. Newman get together with the other 3 Superintendents in the county to write a new SELPA governance plan before they leave for the year. Mr. Newman said he would try and make that happen.
- Community Day School: Mr. Newman received information from our CBO and our MOT Director and received budget numbers from the existing program through the county office and has determined, after the comparison, we would save approximately \$50,000 if we took over the Community Day School. We will take action on this subject at the February meeting.
- Facilities Assessment and Survey: Mr. Bransford asked Mr. Newman if he signed off on the questionnaire that was sent to parents & staff. Mr. Newman replied that he had. Mr. Bransford questioned one of the survey questions regarding asbestos and that it infers that our schools are not safe. Mr. Newman said he asked the survey writers about that question and they said they were trying to discern what items are of great importance to the community. Mr. Newman reported the Facilities Needs Assessment documents over 35M dollars of needed facilities improvements currently exist in the district. The needs are categorized as critical, potentially critical, necessary, and recommended. Mr. Newman stated our "critical" needs add up to about 7.1M dollars, which reinforces our need for a bond measure.
- Enrollment: Our enrollment is down slightly, but our A.D.A. is good.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brown was to report on the CAHS, but due to his absence the CAHS report will be given in the near future.

CEA REPORT

None

CSEA REPORT

None

INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION/  
POSSIBLE ACTION:  
TESTING

Last month Mr. Yerxa requested an explanation of how Mr. Newman planned to measure test results and develop clear standards. Mr. Newman stated he and the administrators met to figure out how they were going to measure improvement. He said the CASP is the new STAR test and that there will be a field test this spring that will give no results...it will just be testing the test. Mr. Newman said there are many ways to test improvement: CELDT, high school Exit Exam, English Language check list

that we use for our ELL students, the historical STAR data, Accelerated Reader and Accelerated Math growth assessments, California Treasures Comprehensive tests, writing assessments in grades 4-8, high frequency words test, text level reading test, data on graduation drop-out rates, and many more grade level tests. Mr. Newman said we will hold ourselves accountable by looking at all the different types of tests listed. At the high school we will look at GPA and how much students have improved their GPA; look at attendance; and reading level assessment.

ACTION ITEM - COMMUNITY DAY  
SCHOOL

No action taken. To be brought back in February.

ACTION ITEM #131445

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Terry Bressler to approve and adopt the second reading of AR 0420.4 Charter School Authorization.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #131446

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Terry Bressler to approve and adopt the second reading of BP/E 0420.41 Charter School Oversight.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM

No action taken.

Board members were not comfortable with the second reading language for BP/AR 0460 Local Control and Accountability Plan. They asked Mr. Newman to amend the language and state the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board monthly along with an annual report.

ACTION ITEM #131447

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Terry Bressler to approve and adopt the second reading of BP 0500 Accountability.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #131448

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to amend the wording of BP/AR 3100 Budget to state the district will maintain a 5% reserve.

Vote: Ayes – 4

Noes – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #131449

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve and adopt the second reading of BP 3110 Transfer of Funds.

Vote: Unanimous

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEM #131450

Consider Approval of Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:

- a. Minutes of December 17, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of January 9, 2014 Special Board Meeting, BPS Visitation
- c. January Payroll
- d. January Warrants: Batch #23 - 25
- e. January Financial Statements

- f. Miscellaneous Funds Budget Revision
- g. 2013-14 Budget Revision
- h. Personnel Assignment Order #2013/14.06
- i. Contracts
  - 1) Renewal of Lease Agreement between CUSD and Mitel Leasing, Inc. (office phones)
  - 2) Agreement between CUSD and Gene Bregman & Associates (Public Opinion Survey for bond measure)
- j. Approve Thomas Critchfield's travel to New York City on February 6 through February 10 to play at Carnegie Hall
- k. Williams Complaint Quarterly Report for October 1, 2013 through December 30, 2013
- l. Approve MOT and EMS Surplus Equipment Recommendation

Motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Lincoln Forry to approve the Consent Agenda without exception.

Vote: Unanimous

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR MATTERS  
ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

None

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. to consider and/or take action upon any of the following items:

- 1. Student Matters:
  - a. Out of School Suspensions
  - b. Inter-district Transfer Agreements
- 2. Personnel Matters:
  - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2013-2014
  - b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- 3. Negotiations:
  - a. Instructions to District negotiators

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:05 P.M. Board President Charles Yerxa reported out the Board reviewed the Out of School Suspension Report, and the Inter-district Transfer Request.

ACTION ITEM # 131451

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Lincoln Forry to approve the Inter-district Transfer Agreement requests.

Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

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