

# COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

745 Tenth Street  
Colusa, CA 95932

## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

April 16, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER                   The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the CUSD Conference Room by Board President Terry Bressler, 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, Principals Johnston, Tarr and Brown, Business Manager Sheryl Bailey, staff, students and parents.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE       Taylor Davies led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- HEARING OF THE PUBLIC       None
- STUDENT'S REPORT           Taylor Davies gave a student report on Colusa High School and upcoming activities. Highlights were as follows: May 1- Battle of the Sexes Rally; May 31 - End of the Year Rally which includes 8<sup>th</sup> graders entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall; May 21 - Senior Project Presentation Night; spring sports schedules and FFA, FBLA & Choir & Band activities.
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT         Board President Bressler added the Senior Dinner will take place on May 20.
- BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME      Charles Yerxa reported the annual CRAF golf tournament will be held on April 26 and many generous donations have been received for it.
- LEADERSHIP REPORT(S)      ♦ **Improving Achievement (standing item):** Mr. Newman stated he and staff were moving ahead with the Improvement Plan and the DRAFT will be going to the Board prior to the May board meeting. The board can either approve it in May or read it then, and bring it back in June to the final reading. It is focusing on instructional improvement and increasing achievement for students and also improving atmosphere and communications.
- ♦ **Meeting with State Superintendent Tom Torlakson:** On April 6, 2013 the California Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson came to Colusa's Industrial Park and talked with Superintendents and Board members from Colusa, Lake & Sutter counties. Some topics of discussion were student testing and Local Control Funding Formula, making effective systemic changes to the State finance system.
- ♦ **STAR testing:** Mr. Newman reported STAR testing has started and will be taking place during the coming weeks. He stated he and the principals got together to review and reinforce the security procedures that must be practiced during the testing period.
- ♦ **Budget (standing item):** Mr. Newman updated the Board on the potential costs of the new SELPA village in Williams and stated that we still do not have actual excess costs lined out. His recommendation to the board would be to hold off in signing the SELPA Budget until all costs are revealed for

2013-2014.

- ◆ **Management items (standing item):** When the newly formed grounds committee (Mr. Newman, Mr. Forry, Mr. Bressler & Mr. LaGrone) met they decided on a Mission for the committee and they also set regulations the committee should follow. Mr. Newman handed out to the Board notes he took during the meeting which described the criteria for volunteer projects that will be site specific.

**Safety Items:** Mr. Newman reported we ran a small scale test on the Alertus Software (to be used in emergency situations). Alex Evans (CCOE Technology) said the test ran very well and we will now try it on a larger scale to make sure it's successful. Mr. Newman met with representatives of the software company and asked them to look into a PA system for each school site that will alert everyone at that particular school site of an emergency, all at once. Their first bid was over \$40,000 for this service. Mr. Newman asked them to go back and come up with a more economical bid for us to consider.

At this time Mr. Bransford asked to revisit the Budget item on the agenda. He had concerns about the district hiring another teacher without the board being aware of the addition. Mr. Bransford said he would prefer a discussion with board members about this since it is a budgetary issue and ultimately it's the board members who approve the budget. Board President Bressler asked Mr. Bransford if he wanted a special meeting on this topic and his answer was yes. The date of Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 6 p.m. was decided upon by all board members for the special meeting.

- ◆ **Enrollment (standing item):** Mr. Newman said the enrollment looks positive, not quite as high as projected, but not as bad as it could be.
- ◆ **Community Outreach (standing item):** Mr. Newman gave an update on the Altami and Hawk Talk meetings he had recently with parents. Both meetings were good, but the Hawk Talk meeting had less people than he had hoped for. At this meeting the discussion was about expanding fundraising and expanding the GATE program in schools. Parents were going to work on finding grants to generate money for the GATE program and technology.

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN  
UPDATE – DAVE TARR

Mr. Tarr gave a status report on Burchfield Primary's Extended Day Kindergarten Pilot Program. He handed out an information sheet that included a schedule comparison of the previous kindergarten schedule and the extended day schedule; a data comparison between last year's kindergarteners and this year, which shows a significant improvement; teacher input questions; positive comments; concerns; plans for the next steps and a preliminary Fall plan. A discussion was held.

The Board requested an Action item be put on the May agenda to consider approval of the extended day kindergarten class at Burchfield.

CEA REP'S REPORT

Pam Giuliano, CEA President, asked the Board to consider hiring another teacher next year at Burchfield. She said the class sizes are growing and the demands of some students are getting more complex. This not only burdens the

teacher, but also the students in the class when trying to learn.  
She also said she was looking forward to negotiations that are coming up soon.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR TIER  
III CATEGORICAL  
FLEXIBILITY 2012-13  
BUDGET AND 2013-14  
PROPOSED BUDGET

President Bressler opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. for the Tier III Categorical Flexibility 2012-13 Budget and 2013-14 Proposed Budget. Sheryl Bailey explained the reason for having this public hearing. Sheryl answered questions from Terry Bressler and Pam Giuliano.  
The public hearing closed at 7:35 p.m.

CSEA REP'S REPORT

None

ACTION ITEM #121343

Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to adopt all Resolutions up for action consideration: #2012-13.11 The Education Protection Account; #2012-13.12 Local Control Funding Formula and #2012-13.13 Sufficient Funding for District Students.

Vote: Unanimous

JUNE BOARD MEETING  
DATE CHANGE

No formal action was taken but there was discussion on changing the date of the June board meeting for budget adoption. The consensus of the Board was that the meeting will be held on June 25, 2013 at 6 p.m.

ACTION ITEM #121344  
CONSENT AGENDA

- G. 1. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:
- a. Minutes of March 19, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
  - b. April Payroll
  - c. April Warrants: Batch #32 - 34
  - d. April Financial Statements
  - e. 2012-13 Budget Revision
  - f. Personnel Assignment Order #2012/2013.09
  - g. Williams Complaint Quarterly Report for January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013
  - h. Consider approval of CHS Music Dept. trip to Los Alamitos, CA on April 26-28, 2013

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Charles Yerxa to pull item G.1.h. from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #121345

Mr. Bransford said he pulled the CHS Music Dept. trip to Los Alamitos, CA on April 26-28, 2013 because Mr. Phenicie was in the audience and he wanted to make sure Mr. Phenicie didn't want to speak to the trip. Mr. Phenicie said he was there to answer any questions the board might have. There being none, Mr. Bransford made the motion and Mr. Yerxa seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Bransford suggested that next year all clubs apply to the Board for out of area and overnight trips *at least 30 days prior* to the trip in question.

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR  
MATTERS ON CLOSED  
SESSION AGENDA

None

ADJOURN TO CLOSED  
SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 7:45 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 Transfers
  - c. Consider approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #3012-13.08
2. Personnel Matters:
  - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2012/2013
  - b. Public Employment – Job Share Proposals for 2013-2014
  - c. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
3. Negotiations:
  - a. Instructions to District Negotiators (*Executive Session of School Board and its designated representatives for the purpose of discussing its position regarding matters within the scope of representation and instructing its designated representatives.*)
  - b. Review Side Letter of Agreement by and between CSEA Colusa River Benders Chapter No. 574 and CUSD regarding Classified Athletic Coaches
4. Pending Litigation:
  - a. In accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9 the Board will meet in Closed Session with its legal counsel to consider anticipated litigation.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED  
SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:10 p.m. Board President Terry Bressler reported out the Board reviewed the Inter-district Transfer Agreements, the Out of School Suspension Report, the 2013-14 Job Share Proposal for Julie Peterson and Jennifer Hardwick, the AHP Recommendation for #EH 2012-13.08, reviewed the Side Letter of Agreement with CSEA Colusa Riverbenders Chapter #574 and met with Bob Thurbon regarding possible litigation.

ACTION ITEM #121346

Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve the Inter-district Transfer Agreements.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #121347

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve Julie Peterson and Jennifer Hardwick's Job Share proposal for 2013-2014.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #121348      Motion was made by Kelli Griffith-Garcia, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the AHP panel's recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.08.

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #121349      Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve and ratify the Side Letter of Agreement between CSEA Colusa Riverbenders Chapter #574 and CUSD with regards to Classified Athletic Coaching Contracts.

Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT              The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,  
Executive Administrative Assistant

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APPROVED BY:

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