

# COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

745 Tenth Street  
Colusa, CA 95932

## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

December 20, 2011

CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. in the CUSD Conference Room by Board President Don Bransford, and established a quorum was present. Attending were Cindy Steidlmayer, Charles Yerxa, Terry Bressler, Lincoln Forry and Don Bransford. Also in attendance was Barry Reed, superintendent search advisor from Dave Long and Associates.
HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR MATTERS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA	None
ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION	The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:03 p.m.
RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION	<p>The Board reconvened at 6:09 p.m. Attending were Board Members Cindy Steidlmayer, Charles Yerxa, Terry Bressler, Lincoln Forry and Don Bransford. Also in attendance were Superintendent Larry Yeghoian, Business Manager Sheryl Bailey, Principals Dave Tarr, Jody Johnston and Dave McGrath, parents, staff and students.</p> <p>President Bransford announced there was no action taken in Closed Session. Mr. Bransford stated the Board discussed salary negotiation and contract issues for the new superintendent and the interview process with Barry Reed, superintendent search advisor.</p>
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	MacKenzie Bressler led the Pledge of Allegiance.
HEARING OF THE PUBLIC	None
STUDENT'S REPORT	MacKenzie Bressler stated CHS had just completed their student body elections for class officers. She said the Snowball dance will take place on January 14, 2012 and the basketball homecoming will be February 3, 2012.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Mr. Bransford reported the board had a good visit to Burchfield Primary School. He stated he noticed a change in the cafeteria due to the focus on making the environment better conducive to students at the primary level.
BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME	None
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	◆ Mr. Yeghoian introduced home school teachers Roberta James and Lucille Imhoff and asked them to talk a little about their program. Ms. James spoke to the make-up of the home school population. She said the student ratio is 60%/40% - 60% are traditional home school students. Twenty-seven of those students have never been in a public school classroom. 40% of the students are independent study students. The teachers spoke about the curriculum they use, including obtaining 2 more Rosetta Stone

subscriptions that will serve 5 students each. They reported the home school students went on a field trip to the Colusa bowling alley and Bishop's Pumpkin Patch in Wheatland. Both parents and students took part in this activity.

- ◆ Mr. Yeghoian shared a chart that provided monthly enrollment for each school. This chart showed we started the 2011-2012 school year with a district wide enrollment increase of 33 and we have maintained the increase to date.
- ◆ In his Report of the District Superintendent Mr. Yeghoian explained the Kindergarten Readiness Act, SB 1381 which moves up the school start date for 5 year-olds to September 1. This will be accomplished through a multi-year phase in and requires that each district offers a Transitional Kindergarten at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. He included a CSBA Policy Brief with his report for additional information.
- ◆ In his Report of the District Superintendent Mr. Yeghoian stated the Governor enacted mid-year budget cuts on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. The impact to CUSD came from two revenue sources; Home-to-School Transportation (\$22,770) and school district revenue limit (\$18,035) for a total loss of \$40,805. He stated he also anticipates an approximate \$20,000 impact from our portion of the SELPA transportation loss for a total mid-year impact of \$60,805. As an offset to this reduction, the district just received the Title I allocation amount which is approximately \$40,000 more than was budgeted.
- ◆ At the November 15 board meeting there were issues brought up during the Hearing of the Public that required further study. Mr. Yeghoian stated he met with staff and has made assessments regarding school projects. He said communication is the key to making the project successful. He cited that meeting periodically with project participants, staff and administration would lead to a successful completion of any project.
- ◆ Mr. Yeghoian reported that Egling Middle School has been designated an Open Enrollment school for the 2012-13 school year as a result of their 2011 Academic Progress Index (API) score. He also stated Burchfield Primary is not an Open Enrollment school in 2012-13.

CEA REP'S REPORT                   None

CSEA REP'S REPORT               None

INFORMATION:  
2010-2011 AUDIT REPORT       Rick Ardito, CPA from Messner & Hadley, LLP summarized the district's 2010-2011 Audit Report. He stated the net assets have increased by 6.38%, the revenue exceeded the expenditures by \$350,000 and capital assets decreased over the year. The P2 ADA from last year is down 4 from 2010-11 and the reserves are good at \$2.04 million. Mr. Ardito completed his report and said it had been a pleasure working with the district.

SCHOOL FACILITIES NEEDS  
REPORT                               Mr. Yeghoian reported that Semingson Architects, Inc. recently completed the 2011 Colusa USD Facilities Report that briefly outlines areas of need on all school campuses. The report represents a snapshot of needs based on physical

appearance, age of facility, operational efficiency, updated regulations, staff input, etc. The report also provides additional information on each facility, demographics and mechanisms to finance a Modernization Project. Mr. Yeghoian said the purpose of the report is to provide initial information to the Board and develop a dialog to move forward with a possible modernization plan.

CAFETERIA FUND PROJECTS

Mr. Yeghoian reported that due to increased lunch counts over the past few years the Cafeteria Fund balance has a reserve in excess of \$150,000. Since these funds can only be used for food service related costs, staff has reviewed needs in all kitchens, cafeterias and related food service areas. He provided the Board with a list of items approved for purchasing. This included tables for outdoor eating at all schools, salad bars, new flooring at CHS and BPS and a walk-in freezer at CHS. Mr. Bransford asked if there were any infrastructure plans. He would like to see new ideas for food offerings to make food better for students.

CHS/CAHS PROPOSED  
CHANGES FOR 2012-2013  
SCHOOL YEAR

In a report for Colusa High and Colusa Alternative High School entitled "Proposed Changes for the 2012-13 School Year" Dave McGrath introduced the proposed changes that were recommended in the Schoolwide Critical Areas of Need report written by the 2011 WASC accreditation team. He stated the school was not addressing every change right away, but those most important first, and the others during the 6 year term of the accreditation.

**Computer Literacy** has been required as a course for students in their freshman year. They are now recommending that Computer Literacy remain as a graduation requirement, but not as a freshmen requirement, rather it can be taken at any time during the student's 4 years of high school.

The **Freshman Exploratory Wheel** consists of four 9 week courses introducing freshmen students to Art, Science, Careers/Study Skills and Agriculture. This new concept will provide greater flexibility in scheduling and support for Career Technical Education and Career Pathways.

**Senior Schedule Options** will be provided to all seniors who have a 2.0 GPA and are on track for graduation, an option to enroll in six classes and leave school at the end of 6th Period. Seniors who have a 3.0 GPA and are on graduation track can qualify for an additional period and can take a 5 period day. This again, would significantly reduce the number of TA's and Assistants and reduce average class sizes in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Periods.

**CAHS Graduation Credit Requirement** will be reduced from the current 240 to 220. This reduction would not change the requirements of the core curriculum; it would reduce the number of elective units.

**Credit Recovery/Early Intervention** proposals will allow students to recover credits and develop skills that are deficient.

**BLOCK Schedule** will be changed and replaced with a straight seven periods for each day of the week. It is felt that it would be more beneficial for students to be exposed to more instruction time than have an Enrichment Period that takes 53 minutes out of the instructional day one day a week.

**Math Support Class** is to be eliminated. Originally Math Support was designed to allow a student to take one period of Math Support and one period of Algebra 1. Students would have the same teacher in both classes. Because

of staff reduction it has been difficult to accomplish the pairing of students and teachers and also increases the size of the Algebra 1 class. With Math Support eliminated, it allows the offering of two additional Algebra 1 courses to students with lower class sizes and offers a better educational environment for both the student and instructor.

A discussion was held regarding the changes. The Board requested a report at the next school board meeting from Mr. McGrath related to the computer literacy class. They want to know what is being offered at CHS and if teachers are keeping up with current technology. The Board would also like the proposed changes as clearly stated action items on the next board meeting agenda.

REORGANIZATION OF THE  
BOARD: PRESIDENT  
ACTION #111232

A motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Cindy Steidlmayer to nominate Lincoln Forry as President of the Board.

Vote: Unanimous

BOARD CLERK  
ACTION #111233

A motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Charles Yerxa to nominate Cindy Steidlmayer as Clerk to the Board.

Vote: Unanimous

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD  
ACTION #111234

A motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Cindy Steidlmayer to nominate the office of the Superintendent as Secretary to the Board.

Vote: Unanimous

After the reorganization of the Board, MacKenzie Bressler presented an appreciation plaque to outgoing President Don Bransford from the CHS Leadership Class.

ESTABLISH BOARD MEETING  
DATES AND TIMES FOR  
2012  
ACTION #111235

A motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Don Bransford to set the third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. as the board meeting date and time for 2012.

Vote: Unanimous

2010-2011 AUDIT REPORT  
ACTION #111236

A motion was made by Cindy Steidlmayer, seconded by Charles Yerxa to accept and approve the 2010-2011 Audit Report.

Vote: Unanimous

PARENT GRADUATION  
REQUEST

Home School parent, Pamela Kalisuch, addressed the Board to ask if her daughter could be allowed to participate in the Egling Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation in June, 2012, instead of the Colusa Alternative Home School 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Ms. Kalisuch stated her reasons and a discussion was held. At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Yeghoian was directed by the Board to look at the policy and bring information back to the Board in January for their determination.

FOOTBALL STADIUM USE  
FEES  
ACTION #111237

The football stadium use fee was discussed due to a request during the Hearing of the Public at the November 15, 2011 board meeting. The request was to have the nighttime stadium use fees lowered. After reviewing the operational costs for stadium lights and comparative rental fees in the area, Mr. Yeghoian recommended the following fees:

Stadium Fees With Lights: Non-Profit Organizations - \$25 hr.; Local for Profit Organizations - \$50 hr.; and Out of Area for Profit Organizations - \$120 hr.

Stadium Fees Without Lights: Non-Profit - \$10; Local for Profit - \$20; and Out of Area for Profit - \$60.

A motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the Football Stadium Use Fee Schedule as presented.

Vote: Unanimous

CONSENT AGENDA  
ACTION ITEM #111238

Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Cindy Steidlmayer to approve the Consent Agenda without exception.

1. Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:
  - a. Minutes of November 15, 2011 Regular Board Meeting
  - b. Minutes of November 28, 2011 Special Board Meeting
  - c. Minutes of December 13, 2011 Special Board Meeting
  - d. December Payroll
  - e. Personnel Assignment Order #2011/2012.05
  - f. December Warrants: Batch #20-23
  - g. December Financial Statements

Vote: Unanimous

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR  
MATTERS ON CLOSED  
SESSION AGENDA  
ADJOURN TO CLOSED  
SESSION

None

The Board adjourned to closed session at 8:30 p.m. to consider and/or take action upon any of the following items:

1. Student Matters:
  - a. Out of School Suspensions
  - b. Approve AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #2011-12.10
2. Personnel Matters:
  - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2011-2012
  - b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
  - c. Public Employee Resignation
3. Negotiations:
  - a. Instruction to District Negotiators

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED  
SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 7:45 p.m. Board President Lincoln Forry reported out the Board reviewed the Inter-district Transfer Agreements, the Out of School Suspension Report, and Personnel.

ACTION ITEM #111239      Motion was made by Cindy Steidlmayer, seconded by Terry Bressler to approve the AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #2011-12.10.

Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT              The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,  
Executive Administrative Assistant

---

APPROVED BY:

---

---

---

---

---