

**COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

745 Tenth Street  
Colusa, CA 95932

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

April 15, 2014

- CALL TO ORDER                   The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the CUSD Conference Room by Board President Charles Yerxa, and established a quorum was present. Attending were Kelli Griffith-Garcia, Lincoln Forry, Don Bransford, Terry Bressler and Charles Yerxa. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dwayne Newman, Principals Johnston, Tarr and Brown, Business Manager Sheryl Bailey, staff, students and parents.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE       Terry Bressler led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- HEARING OF THE PUBLIC       None
- STUDENT'S REPORT            Taylor Davies reported on the many activities that are taking place at Colusa High School such as: the Agrium Project Proposals, Spring Sports, FFA State Convention in Fresno, Senior Projects, Leadership Class Activities, Eighth Grade night at CHS, and the FBLA State Conference in Ontario. Taylor stated that out of the 336 groups/applicants who submitted proposals for the Agrium Project she, Nick Moresco, and Gabby Garcia and Jenny Pulido from Colusa High School placed in the top 10. The prize money was given to the student/s and it was also matched for their school. Nick Moresco won \$800, Taylor Davies won \$900, and Gabby Garcia and Jenny Pulido won \$500. Taylor also reported she placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the FBLA competition in Job Interviews so she will be going to the National FBLA competition in Tennessee.
- ACTION #131469                Motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to grant permanent tenure status at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year to Eric Lay and Paul Theriault. Paul Theriault was present and was given his certificate of tenure, Eric Lay arrived later in the meeting and was given his certificate of tenure at that time.
- Vote: Unanimous
- RECEPTION                     At 4:30 p.m. President Yerxa announced the Board would take a break to hold a brief reception in honor of the tenured teachers.
- RECONVENE                     The meeting resumed after the reception at 4:45 p.m.
- RECOGNITIONS                Mr. Newman was asked by the 6<sup>th</sup> graders who went to Shady Creek to show a short video to the Board. The video thanked the Board for their contribution to the Shady Creek fund so the students could attend the environmental camp for a week. All students had a wonderful time.  
EMS Principal Jody Johnston recognized the four 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, Krystyna Frank, Mindy Lederer, Michelle Quentmeyer and Pam Giuliano, for the time they contribute to the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Shady Creek.

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- PRESIDENT'S REPORT      President Yerxa reminded the Board of the CRAF golf tournament being held on Friday, April 18.
- BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME      No announcements or comments were given.
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT      ♦ **Improving Achievement:** Mr. Newman reported all instructional strategies were on track at the present time. He stated that since we will not have the State testing data this year, we'll have to use other measures to track student achievement.
- LCAP Progress:** Mr. Newman drew a schematic on the white board to show how the process works. "Values, Input, Action Steps, Input & Prioritization, Forward Thinking, Allocating based on priorities and Measuring Progress." The students are at the center of it all. He stated we have to have an LCAP that aligns with our budget by June, 2014. He reminded everyone that the whole process would be a learning process since the State is still calling the LCAP template a DRAFT.
- Update on SELPA Plan Revision, Community Day School, Opportunity School:** Mr. Newman met with CCOE Superintendent Kay Spurgeon last week. He said Ms. Spurgeon told him she has come up with a plan for the SELPA based on a funding formula. The districts in the county have not been happy with their lack of control over the SELPA funding. This way, based on a formula, districts will be able to plan based on A.D.A., the number of special ed. students we have, the LCFF funding and a weighted factor depending on enrollment. Ms. Spurgeon will be getting examples of this to Mr. Newman in the near future. He said the districts are looking at this idea to try and keep the SELPA governance here in Colusa.
- Mr. Newman stated he has not done any work on the Community Day School since he drafted a plan that he sent to the other districts in the county. He is waiting on their input. Keeping the safety of other students in mind, he will look for locations for the Community School within our district boundaries.
- District Homework Policy:** Mr. Newman said he neglected to put DRAFT on the Homework Philosophy that was included in the Board Packet. He wants to discuss with the Board the philosophy behind a possible policy and then will have a discussion with the teachers in the district for their input before a homework policy is developed. A discussion was held with Mr. Forry stating he wanted the homework to be consistent and progressive throughout the grade levels. Mr. Bransford stated he thought the policy wording should be driven by the staff and principals, not the Board.
- Progress of CASSPP Testing Progress:** Mr. Newman reported the new testing process was going fine. Each principal reported testing was going well at their sites.
- ♦ **Budget (standing item):** Sheryl Bailey reported the annual P2 attendance report was way up at 1382, which is 8 more than we had in the budget. Sheryl said although this is good news, we won't know anything for sure until July when the State gives the final numbers. So far, everything looks

good! Mr. Newman stated this year's ending balance will be \$1 million. He's projecting our revenues for next year will be \$12 million with projected expenditures being \$11.6 million. If we change nothing, our ending fund balance will jump to \$500,000. He talked about various ways to improve the district using this money. Mr. Forry asked him to keep in mind we were going to need new textbooks soon, which will be a very large expense.

- ◆ **Enrollment:** Our enrollment is up.
- ◆ **Management:** Darren Brown asked CAHS teacher Bobby Kirkman to give a report on the CAHS. Mr. Kirkman said this was his 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching at the CAHS and he is now the sole teacher there. The students currently go to school for 4 periods – 0 period through 3<sup>rd</sup> period. The enrollment numbers have fluctuated the last few years in the 20's, and this year the enrollment is at a high of 32 students. He stated attendance is up 8% and he has focused on more accountability for the students. They operate in one classroom, which has a better environment and climate, and positive attitudes. He feels it's a very dynamic program this year and is very encouraged with the students' outlook. Mr. Kirkman stated there were 5 students who had achieved their goals and will be re-enrolling in Colusa High School. He had 5 students who were going to present their senior projects and hopefully graduate this year. There will be a few who will be 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors.

- CEA REP'S REPORT Pam Giuliano had nothing to report for CEA. She said their group was close to ratifying next month.
- CSEA REP'S REPORT None
- ACTION ITEM #131470 Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Terry Bressler to send a letter to the Governor regarding the need for a State School Bond on the November 2014 ballot.
- Vote: Unanimous
- JUNE BOARD MEETING It was determined that the regular School Board meeting in June will be held on June 17, 2014. There was no action taken.
- ACTION ITEM #131471 Lincoln Forry asked for discussion on the changes to Board Policy BP6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements. He wanted to revisit the senior project portion of the proposed policy change after the senior projects were held this Thursday.
- Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Don Bransford to have the First Reading of BP6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements at the May 20, 2014 Board meeting.
- Vote: Ayes – 4  
Noes – 1  
Absent – 0

LCAP/LCFF STAFFING  
CHANGES

No action was taken for this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA  
ACTION ITEM #131472

Motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Lincoln Forry to pull item J.1.b. Minutes of April 9, 2014 Special Board Meeting – Supt./Board Workshop and change the minutes to state that “President Charles Yerxa called the meeting to order” and that parent Tiffany Sines was present at the meeting.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve the Consent Agenda with the changes to the April 9, 2014 minutes as noted.

1. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:
  - a. Minutes of March 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting
  - b. Minutes of April 9, 2014 Special Board Meeting – Superintendent / Board Workshop
  - c. April Payroll
  - d. March Warrants: Batch #34 - 37
  - e. April Financial Statements
  - f. Personnel Assignment Order #2013/2014.09
  - g. 2013-2014 Budget Revision
  - h. Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report for January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014

Vote: Unanimous

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR  
MATTERS ON CLOSED  
SESSION AGENDA

None

ADJOURN TO CLOSED  
SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:23 p.m. to consider and/or take action upon any of the following items:

1. Student Matters:
  - a. Inter-District Transfer Requests
  - b. Out of School Suspensions
  - c. Consider approval of Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation for Expulsion Case EH#2013-14.08
2. Personnel Matters:
  - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2013/2014
  - b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
  - a. Public Employee Evaluation - Superintendent
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.*)

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- 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 Inter-district Transfer Agreements, the Out of School Suspension Report, the recommendation of the AHP for Expulsion Case EH#2013-14.08 and discussed the Superintendent's evaluation.
- ACTION ITEM #131473      Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Lincoln Forry to approve the Inter-district Transfer Agreements.
- Vote: Unanimous
- ACTION ITEM #131474      Motion was made by Terry Bressler, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve the AHP recommendation for Expulsion Case EH#2013-14.08.
- Vote: Unanimous
- ADJOURNMENT      The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,  
Executive Administrative Assistant

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APPROVED BY:

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