

**COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

745 Tenth Street  
Colusa, CA 95932

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

May 21, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER                      The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the CUSD Conference Room by Board Clerk Charles Yerxa, and established a quorum was present. Attending were Charles Yerxa, Kelli Griffith-Garcia, Lincoln Forry, and Don Bransford. Terry Bressler was absent. 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 upcoming activities at Colusa High School. Highlights were as follows: CHS Baseball team won the North Section, Senior Projects were presented today; End of year activities – Senior Dinner was last night, Senior Trip will be 5/22/13, Senior Breakfast is 5/31/13, End of the Year Rally with 8<sup>th</sup> grade 5/31/13, and End of Year BBQ sponsored by Colusa Lion’s Club.
- PRESIDENT’S REPORT                      Charles Yerxa reported the senior project presentations were held today and he was overwhelmed at how well the students did.
- BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME                      Don Bransford reported the Virginia Read Day was excellent, although there were only 2 teachers that he saw there. He was disappointed there were no students in attendance. He stated it was a tremendous resource for teachers and students alike and hopes to see more representation next year.
- LEADERSHIP REPORT(S)                      ♦ **Improving Achievement (standing item):** Mr. Newman stated he sent the **DRAFT CUSD Strategic & 2013-2014 Improvement Plan** to the Board and said it was a working document. He is looking for direction as to how to proceed.  
Mr. Newman reported there was a DRAFT copy of the Core Value Statements at every school site. Staff was told to vote for 5 statements. He will be collecting these sheets in June and the Core Values will be adopted in either August or September.
- ♦ **Star Testing:** Mr. Newman stated STAR testing went smoothly throughout the district without any security issues. He extended his ‘thanks’ to all involved with the testing.
- ♦ **CUSD Bullying Prevention Efforts & Policies:** Mr. Newman reported Barbara Hankins is reading through the CUSD Bullying Policies and will make a few changes before she brings it before the Board in June for

discussion.

- ◆ **Budget (standing item):** Mr. Newman provided a handout entitled *CUSD Budget Projections* to everyone. He stated Sheryl received extremely good news regarding the budget at the May Revise meeting she attended today in Sacramento. There is a much larger increase in revenue than we thought we would have, so consequently, with this added income, we have to figure out how to most effectively spend this money. A discussion was held regarding ongoing revenues and one time revenues and the percentage of the reserve we should keep. Mr. Newman stated his recommendation is to keep 5% in the reserve and plan for the spending of the remainder of that money effectively.

Mr. Newman stated that with the new monies the district will be getting he wanted to get some direction with regards to adding staff. Mr. Bransford stated that before the board takes action, he would like a public process to discuss the option of new hires, possibly a special meeting. Mr. Newman suggested giving the board time to look at the new budget numbers and staffing requests and then decide what to do at the next meeting. At this time the Board decided to have a special meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss and possibly approve an increase in Burchfield's teaching staff.

**SELPA/Education Village Issues:** Mr. Newman reported CCOE County Board Member, Gary Teragawa, contacted him and wants to meet with him regarding the history of CCOE's Education Village. Mr. Newman asked the Board if they had any issues with him meeting Mr. Teragawa.

Mr. Newman reviewed his thoughts with the board, after which they agreed and had no objections with him meeting with Mr. Teragawa.

**Management items (standing item):** Graduation Dates / Times / Locations - Mr. Newman reminded the Board of the graduation dates and times: Home School and CAHS graduation will be Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m. at Will S Green Park, Egling Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation will be Thursday, May 30 at 7:00 p.m. at CHS Stadium, Colusa High School graduation will be Friday, May 31, at 7:00 p.m. at CHS Stadium.

**Modernization Bond – Suggestions to consider:** Mr. Newman introduced Don Weidneger, a consultant from the Neenan Corporation, the foremost school construction company in Colorado. Mr. Newman met Mr. Weidneger while doing a construction project at his last school district in Colorado. Mr. Weidneger has now been working in California for the last year. Mr. Newman asked Mr. Weidneger to come to Colusa to talk to him and Mr. LaGrone, CUSD MOT Director, regarding the modernization bond process in California. Mr. Newman has estimates from two companies on the process. *Government Financial Service* estimated our bonding capacity at \$7 million dollars and *Isom & Associates* projected a \$10 - \$12 million dollars yield. Mr. Newman asked the board's permission to "get the ball rolling". A discussion was held with the result being for Mr. Newman to start the procedure by looking at

finance companies. Don Bransford was in agreement that we go ahead with the modernization bond but thought it was going to be difficult for it to pass. He said it's very important we get a representative committee of the community together, with older people, rather than younger people on the committee because those are the people who vote. Mr. Forry suggested we talk with administration in Arbuckle to see what they did before their bond measure passed about 15-20 years ago. Duffy Bailey, MOT Director at Pierce Jt. Unified would be a good source to start with.

**Safety Improvement efforts:** Mr. Newman reported there is a contractor coming in to look at the high school and Egling's gym to see if we can get a voice announcement system installed in both of those areas to meet our safety protocol regulations.

Mr. Forry asked Mr. Brown to check on the hole in the blacktop in the parking lot. He said he had mentioned it earlier in the year, but nothing has been done to patch it yet. Mr. Brown said he will talk with Mr. LaGrone once again regarding the hole.

- ◆ **Enrollment (standing item):** The Enrollment Report showed we have 32 more students this year than last year at this time.
- ◆ **Community Outreach (standing item):** Mr. Newman reported he will be putting the DELAC and Hawk Talk meetings on the calendar for next year. He said we didn't meet the expectations this year with DELAC but we have the bi-laws done and will have the District English Language Acquisition Committee (DELAC) on a regular schedule at the beginning of next year.
- ◆ **Principals:** Full Day Kindergarten update: Mr. Tarr handed out paperwork on the extended day kindergarten proposal. It included a schedule comparison between the previous schedule for 210 instruction minutes with no lunch and the extended schedule for 340 instructional minutes with lunch. It also showed a significant positive difference in the performance level of the students from 2012 to 2013. Mr. Tarr's proposal for the fall of 2013-2014 school year is to have all students attend the AM session, 8:00 – 12:00 (w/lunch); have 45 minutes of intervention in the first grade each afternoon and then have an extended day schedule for kindergarten start at the second trimester with November 12, 2013 as the target date.

CEA REP'S REPORT

Bobbi Weiglein reported the union ratified their contract today and settled on a tentative agreement. She thanked the board for filling the positions at Burchfield and was glad the board was considering adding one more position there.

CSEA REP'S REPORT

Rosemary Hicks reported CSEA would have a ratification meeting next week and she will give Dwayne Newman the results of that meeting at that time.

ACTION ITEM #121353

A discussion was held regarding the proposal to extend the day for Kindergarten students next school year. Board members, parents and teachers asked questions of Mr. Tarr and staff. At the end of the discussion a motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Lincoln Forry to approve Burchfield Primary School's extended day Kindergarten class as proposed:

- ◆ All students to attend AM session, 8:00 – 12:30 (w/lunch)
- ◆ 45 minute intervention in first grade each afternoon
- ◆ Extended day 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. November 12<sup>th</sup> target date.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
Noes – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #121354  
STRATEGIC PLAN/IMPROVEMENT  
PLAN FOR 2013-14

Motion was made by Kelli Griffith-Garcia and seconded by Don Bransford to approve the Strategic Plan/Improvement Plan for 2013-14.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
Noes – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bressler)

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of April 16, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of April 24, 2013 Special Board Meeting
- c. May Payroll
- d. May Warrants: Batch #35 - 41
- e. May Financial Statements
- f. 2012-2013 Budget Revision
- g. Personnel Assignment Order #2012/2013.10
- h. Resolution No. 2012-13.14 Classification of Fund Balances on Governmental Funds
- i. Travel request for FBLA to attend the National Leadership Conference, June 27 – July 1, 2013 in Anaheim, CA.
- j. 2013-2014 Designation of CIF Representatives to League
- k. Approve Injury & Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) Plan
- l. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.15 Patria Forster
- m. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.16 Rick Colson
- n. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.17 Mark Myers
- o. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.18 Billy Guild
- p. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.19 Cindy Pronsolino
- q. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.20 Jan Decker
- r. Retirement Resolution #2012-13.21 Salvatore Lucido

Don Bransford asked to pull item F.1.i. *Travel request for FBLA to attend the National Leadership Conference, June 27 – July 1, 2013 in Anaheim, CA* from the Consent Agenda for discussion. He questioned FBLA providing their own funding to the National Leadership Conference. He said the District has previously provided funding for FFA and FBLA trips, and wondered why FBLA

didn't ask for funding at this time. Sheryl Bailey replied that FBLA hasn't asked for money for the last few years. They receive money from the alumni and fundraising. Mr. Bransford asked for a report on past funding for FFA and FBLA trips to State and National functions.

ACTION ITEM #121355

After discussion motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve the FBLA trip.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
Noes – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #121356

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the remainder of the items on the Consent Agenda.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
Noes – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bressler)

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR  
MATTERS ON CLOSED SESSION  
AGENDA

Don Bransford commented that we don't normally get this many people at board meetings and wanted to thank all who attended for their interest -- parents, teachers and those who were required to be there. He also extended his thanks for a great year. He said everyone works very hard and it's greatly appreciated by the Board.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:00 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 #2012-13.09
  - d. Consider approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.10
  - e. Consider approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.11
2. Personnel Matters:
  - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2012/2013
  - b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
  - c. Public Employee Resignations
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.*)

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED  
SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:20 p.m. Board Clerk Charles

Yerxa reported out the Board reviewed the Inter-district Transfer Agreements, the Out of School Suspension Report, the AHP recommendations. The CEA and CSEA Tentative Agreements were not discussed.

ACTION ITEM #121357

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

Vote: Ayes – 4  
      Noes – 0  
      Absent – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #121358

Motion was made by Kelli Griffith-Garcia, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the AHP panel's recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.09.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
      Noes – 0  
      Absent – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #121359

Motion was made by Kelli Griffith-Garcia, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the AHP panel's recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.10.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
      Noes – 0  
      Absent – 1 (Bressler)

ACTION ITEM #121360

Motion was made by Kelli Griffith-Garcia, seconded by Don Bransford to approve the AHP panel's recommendation for Expulsion Case #2012-13.11.

Vote: Ayes – 4  
      Noes – 0  
      Absent – 1 (Bressler)

CSEA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

There was no action taken regarding the CSEA Tentative Negotiated Agreement.

CEA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

There was no action taken regarding the CEA Tentative Negotiated Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,  
Executive Administrative Assistant

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**APPROVED BY:**

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