

COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

745 Tenth Street
Colusa, CA 95932

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

January 15, 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 and Terry Bressler. Don Bransford was absent. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dwayne Newman, Principals Johnston, Tarr and Brown, Business Manager Sheryl Bailey, staff, students and public.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Taylor Davies led the Pledge of Allegiance.
HEARING OF THE PUBLIC	None
STUDENT'S REPORT	Taylor Davies, new student body president, handed out a written report to the Board listing activities taking place at Colusa High School. Included in this report was information regarding homecoming dates and times; leadership awareness projects; the mentoring program; and senior projects.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Board President Terry Bressler presented Lincoln Forry with an appreciation plaque for his service as Board President during 2012.
BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME	None
SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT	Mr. Yerxa had asked Mr. Newman for a report on the new state testing, computer based program called Smarter Balanced. Mr. Newman reported that Egling Middle School 7 th graders participated in the pilot project for the district for this program. Mr. Newman stated the technology committee is working to ensure we have the necessary equipment in infrastructure and that all staff are working to ensure that instruction aligns with the standards being assessed by Smarter Balanced.
ASSIGN BOARD COMMITTEES	The Board elected to table this item until the February meeting due to Don Bransford's absence.
LEADERSHIP REPORT(S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Mr. Newman stated he has developed a new order of the agenda to include "standing items" which are: Improving Achievement, Budget, Management, Enrollment, and Community Outreach and Communications.◆ Improving Achievement: Mr. Newman reported that we are continuing on with instructional strategies. He's getting ready to post Mission & Vision statements for the community to vote on. When the selection is made for our Mission & Vision statements they will be a guide for us in the process of improvement planning. This will also run parallel with our budget planning for the district. Some of the high points for improving the achievement gap will be to work on the atmosphere in our schools for both

staff and students, and work on communication with the community.

- ◆ **Budget:** Mr. Newman reported good news from the State and said we all can breathe a little easier. Mr. Newman will be speaking to the Board about changing the declining budget strategies that they had originally discussed. He stated we still have a deficit in terms of yearly income, but we may be able to cut some now, preserve a little more than we thought we could, and see how things turn out next year with regards to the economy and our school budget.
- ◆ **Management items:** Mr. Newman reported he was approached by AMPLA Healthcare who is interested in purchasing or leasing the old kindergarten property that is next to the Headstart building on 6th & Lafayette Sts. He will be meeting with them in the near future to discuss the specifics. Mr. Newman will keep the board informed of the discussions.
- ◆ **Enrollment:** Mr. Newman stated our enrollment is up but our A.D.A. is not. Sheryl Bailey stated she thought our a.d.a. will be the same as last year or up 1 or 2, not the 20 we were hoping for with the increase in kindergarten enrollment.
- ◆ Mr. Newman reported he and Jim Pingrey have met a couple of times with regards to the water bill issue. Mr. Pingrey went to the Williams school district and found that Williams USD is paying about half of what CUSD pays. Mr. Newman & Mr. Pingrey plan on attending a City Council meeting to ask questions and in the interim will be researching other school districts to find out how they are billed.
- ◆ Mr. Newman reported the district received over \$16,000 from the 2012-2013 Alumni Association. Gerry Davies heads up the Alumni Assn. and Mr. Newman expressed his gratitude to Mr. Davies for all his hard work for the school district.
- ◆ Mr. Newman stated the School Safety Plan is being looked at by all Superintendents in the County to have a consistent plan throughout, so everyone reacts the same way to each type of emergency. He said the new Standard Response Protocol is very simple but very effective. Mr. Newman is meeting with the county emergency responders on Tuesday of next week. The Superintendent's Council meets directly after this meeting at CCOE where Superintendents will adopt a county-wide plan.
- ◆ **Community Outreach** – Mr. Newman wants to keep this as a “standing item” on the agenda for communications. He stated his new communications bulletin for the community will be labeled “Hawk Talk”. “Hawk Talk” information flyers will be placed on the website as well as distributed at community meetings. These meetings will be held on a periodic basis, possibly once a month to start. There will be an open forum at these meetings to allow parents to share their concerns and ideas for the district.
- ◆ Mr. Brown gave a report on Colusa Alternative High School. Currently there are 24 students enrolled. Two students graduated in December and there will be 6 or 7 students graduating at the end of May. He told the Board that he had made some changes at the CAHS this year by switching from a 5 period day to a 4 period day. Students have set a school-wide

goal of earning 1,000 credits this year. Mr. Brown and Ms. Tanner meet with students twice a month to make sure their personal goals/credits are on track. Mr. Brown and Ms. Tanner also encourage students to attain higher goals, if possible. At the beginning of the year students signed a contract that included attendance, discipline issues, and credit goals.

Mr. Brown said he is taking a pro-active approach with CHS students who are credit deficient by changing their programs and sending them to the CAHS to make up these credits and then they can return to the high school and graduate with their class.

CEA REP'S REPORT

Pam Giuliano, CEA President, reported CEA had put off negotiations until the 24th of January so they had time to look at the budget and get more information from School Services regarding the budget. Pam asked Sheryl what school districts are getting from the State. Sheryl replied schools were getting a 1.65 COLA, possibly more. Pam stated this information definitely sounded better. She was happy with the Golden Handshake for certificated personnel and thought there would be at least 5 people submitting retirement paperwork.

CSEA REP'S REPORT

Gay Seaver reported their CSEA group had negotiations on Thursday. She wanted to thank the Board, Don Bransford especially, for allowing CSEA members who were in the audience at the last Board meeting to speak. She said it was very beneficial to their group and she was happy the Board listened to what they had to say.

PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING EDUCATION
CODE SECTION 33050
WAIVER REQUEST

Mr. Bressler opened up the Public Hearing at 6:32 p.m. regarding Education Code Section 33050 Waiver Request: Consideration of whether or not the Board should file a request with the California Dept. of Education to waive the application of the 75% rule established by Education Code section 44908 on a one time basis, for one certificated employee which will establish tenure for that employee.

Mr. Yerxa asked Mr. Newman to describe the background for this item to the Board. Mr. Newman gave the background for this request.

Pam Giuliano, as CEA President, stated the union is thrilled the Board is considering this request.

Mindy Lederer, classroom teacher, spoke up and said she was very happy this problem is being "righted".

There being no further comments, Mr. Bressler closed the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m.

ACTION ITEM #121329
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE
DATE/TIME/LOCATION FOR A
BOARD & SUPT. RETREAT

Board members checked their calendars and the date of February 16, 2013 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. was decided upon for a Board/Superintendent retreat.

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Charles Yerxa to have the Board/Superintendent retreat take place on Saturday, February 16, 2013, in the District Conference room.

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

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
EDUCATION CODE SECTION
33050 WAIVER REQUEST
ACTION #121330

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to submit the Education Code Section 33050 Waiver Request to CDE.

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

CONSENT AGENDA
ACTION ITEM #121331

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

1. Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:
 - a. Minutes of December 18, 2012 Regular Board Meeting
 - b. January Payroll
 - c. January Warrants: Batch #21 - 22
 - d. January Financial Statements
 - e. Personnel Assignment Order #2012/2013.06
 - f. Approve 2012-13 Budget Revision
 - g. Approve Resolution #2012-13.07 Offering of STRS 2 Years Additional Service Credit Retirement Incentive Program - Golden Handshake
 - h. Adopt Resolution #2012-13.08 Signatures of the Members of the Board
 - i. Approve Egling Middle School Single Plan for Student Achievement - February 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014
 - j. Approve Colusa High School Single Plan for Student Achievement - February 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014
 - k. Approve Colusa Alternative Home School Single Plan for Student Achievement - February 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014
 - l. Williams Complaint Quarterly Report for October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012
 - m. Approve CHS AP English class trip to Ashland, Oregon, March 5 - 7, 2013

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

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR
MATTERS ON CLOSED
SESSION AGENDA

None

ADJOURN TO CLOSED
SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:44 p.m. to consider and/or take action upon any of the following items:

1. Student Matters:
 - a. Out-of-School Suspensions
 - b. Consider Approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.04
 - c. Consider Approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.05
 - d. Consider Approval of AHP Recommendation for Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.06

2. Personnel Matters:
 - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2012/2013
 - b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
 - c. Public Employee Resignation/Retirement
3. Negotiations:
 - a. Instructions to District Negotiators

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED
SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. Board President Terry Bressler reported out the Board reviewed the Inter-district Transfer Agreements, the Out of School Suspension Report, and the AHP recommendations.

ACTION ITEM #121332

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

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

ACTION ITEM #121333

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Charles Yerxa to approve the AHP recommendation of Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.04.

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

ACTION ITEM #121334

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Charles Yerxa to approve the AHP recommendation of Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.05.

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

ACTION ITEM #121335

Motion was made by Lincoln Forry, seconded by Charles Yerxa to approve the AHP recommendation of Expulsion Case #EH 2012-13.06.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,
Executive Administrative Assistant

APPROVED BY:
