

COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

745 Tenth Street
Colusa, CA 95932

OFFICIAL MINUTES
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

March 19, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 4:30 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 Jaime Mendez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- HEARING OF THE PUBLIC Pam Giuliano shared a DVD of pictures taken when the 6th graders were at Shady Creek this year.
- ACTION #121340 Egling Middle School Principal Jody Johnston stated CUSD was very lucky to have Lisa Bond as a 7th & 8th grade English Language Development teacher as well as a 7th grade Language Arts teacher and was very happy to recommend tenure for her to the Board.
- Motion was made by Don Bransford, Seconded by Charles Yerxa to grant Permanent Tenure Status at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year to Lisa Bond.
- Vote: Unanimous
- RECEPTION At 5:10 p.m. President Bressler announced the Board would take a break to hold a brief reception in honor of Lisa Bond, newly tenured teacher.
- RECONVENE The meeting resumed after the reception at 5:20 p.m.
- STUDENT'S REPORT Jaime Mendez, incoming student body president, gave his student report for Colusa High School. He stated students were involved in many activities such as senior projects, sporting events, club activities. He handed out the FBLA Section Conference Results and introduced Eric Kraft who explained a new idea shaping up at CHS called the 2013 Leadership "Daylight" Project. This project intends to be motivational and inspiring to all students. Students will choose quotes by famous people to paint on the walls in the quad so students can read them throughout the day for inspiration as they pass through the quad.
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT President Bressler thanked Pam Giuliano for her Shady Creek DVD presentation.
- BOARD OF TRUSTEE TIME Lincoln Forry asked to have the district grounds committee established. Committee members would be Terry Bressler, Lincoln Forry and Jim LaGrone.

Don Bransford suggested the new Grounds Committee set project guidelines first before any new project is started. He said this should be done for all projects since we have limited manpower and funding.

Charles Yerxa stated the CDE Superintendent Tom Torlakson will be speaking on April 6 at 10 a.m. at the Colusa County Chamber of Commerce for those interested in attending.

Terry Bressler reported he attended the county SELPA meeting and encouraged any board member to attend in the future. Don Bransford stated there was good news announced at this meeting -- the County is not going over last year's budget.

LEADERSHIP REPORT(S)

◆ **Improving Achievement (standing item):** Mr. Newman stated the DRAFT Plan was given to staff and should be finished in a month. The Plan then will be put together for next year and will be something to carry us forward for the next 4-5 years. The next piece of our Vision & Mission part is to agree what our Core Values are and get that back to the Board for adoption.

◆ **Budget (standing item):** Mr. Newman stated we will be cutting off purchase orders and reimbursements on April 15 to close down everything but pre-planned spending. We then can get a better idea what our carry-over amount will be for next year. He said he would like to focus on technology since his last conversation with Alex Evans was that CUSD computers were failing at 3 per week.

The Local Control Funding Formula would be based on ELL percentages and free and reduced percentages, both of which are high in CUSD and will mean a significant change for our district, but we need to wait and see if it will survive the political battle.

Mr. Newman reported he attended the SELPA meeting, along with Terry Bressler and Don Bransford. He stated that the budget discussion started by showing excess costs of \$95,000 for our district which is above the \$800,000 we paid this current year, but at the end of the meeting and after much discussion, it was decided there would be no extra costs next year, which is good news. Sheryl Bailey stated we still don't know the budget for the new Special Ed. facility in Williams yet.

Mr. Newman stated there was bad news on the Federal funding for next year. The Feds were cutting 6% on the Federal Title funding which equates to about \$24,000. He stated there was nothing much we can do about that except work on the political end of things and ask Washington to do things differently.

◆ **Management items (standing item):** Mr. Newman reported we will be piloting a software program to be used in an emergency situation. Staff can log on and it will take over every computer screen in the building and flashes a message across the screen. The pilot will be conducted at the high school and will be free if it works there. Mr. Newman stated that we still need to solve the problem of intercoms in all classrooms also. Jim LaGrone is getting a bid on that.

Mr. Newman stated that at the Board retreat he and the board talked about the webpage and Hispanic parents being able to translate and read what

was on the web. He said although there is a button at the bottom of the page that says "Translate" parents wouldn't know it was there. The board wanted this moved to the top of the page. He talked with School Loop and they said it would be a big undertaking to redesign the page to move "Translate" to the top of the page. Mr. Newman said he solved the problem by writing a sentence at the top of the page instructing parents, in Spanish, to click on the "Translate" button at the bottom of the page.

At the Hawk Talk meeting parents requested that the district calendar on the home page of the webpage have all district activities on it. We are working on that request.

Mr. Newman reported parents can now pay for school lunches through PayPams. Parents pay into their child's account and then when the account runs low PayPams will send parents an email notifying them their child's lunch account needs to be replenished.

- ◆ **Enrollment (standing item):** Our enrollment is up, and the A.D.A. is hovering around 5. Sheryl Bailey said this Friday is the cut-off date for the P2 attendance report and she will know at the next meeting what our A.D.A. used for next year's funding will be.
- ◆ **Community Outreach (standing item):** Mr. Newman stated he will be rescheduling the next Hawk Talk meeting to April 10, after the Altami Learning Center meeting on the same day. The next DLAC meeting is scheduled for April 29.

COLUSA HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT – ESA PROGRAM

Mr. Brown introduced Ernesto Mendez and Jose Iniquez who gave a report on the Environmental Science Academy. They explained what students do if they are a part of ESA. Mr. Brown also acknowledged Gay Seaver for putting up the bulletin board with pictures of the high school's first annual Winterfest that took place on December 12, 2012. Many clubs, classes and students took part to make it a very successful evening. He was very happy with the turnout for the Winterfest celebration and he hopes interest in it will grow to an even bigger turnout in the future.

Mr. Bressler asked Mr. Brown why more students don't take AP classes and tests. Mr. Brown said basically it's due to the cost of the tests which is usually \$89 each test. A discussion was held.

CEA REP'S REPORT

Pam Giuliano stated that there are a number of unresolved issues remaining in the district. The teachers are waiting to find out about the budget; wondering about the new kindergarten numbers; and teachers are concerned / wondering about staffing for next year.

Mr. Forry asked questions about the Transitional Kindergarten program at Burchfield. Mr. Tarr explained the differences in the program.

CSEA REP'S REPORT

None

ACTION ITEM #121340

Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Don Bransford to adopt the 2013-14 and 2014-15 School Calendars.

Vote: Unanimous

CONSENT AGENDA
ACTION ITEM #121341

Motion was made by Charles Yerxa, seconded by Kelli Griffith-Garcia to approve the Consent Agenda without exception.

1. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda: Regular and Customary Business Items:
 - a. Minutes of February 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
 - b. Minutes of March 7, 2013 Special Board Meeting – Superintendent / Board Retreat
 - c. March Payroll
 - d. March Warrants: Batch #28 - 31
 - e. March Financial Statements
 - f. Personnel Assignment Order #2012/2013.08

Vote: Unanimous

HEARING OF PUBLIC FOR
MATTERS ON CLOSED
SESSION AGENDA

None

ADJOURN TO CLOSED
SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:26 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
2. Personnel Matters:
 - a. Public Employment – New Hires 2012/2013
 - b. Public Employment – Job Share Proposals for 2013-2014
 - a. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
 - b. 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.*)

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED
SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 7:50 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 and discussed the Superintendent's evaluation.

ACTION ITEM #121342

Motion was made by Don Bransford, seconded by Charles Yerxa to approve the Inter-district Transfer Agreements.

Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lyttle,
Executive Administrative Assistant

APPROVED BY:
