



MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mrs. Chrissy Falk, Board President.

B. ROLL CALL: Board Members: Chrissy Falk, President; Tom Mendenhall (Teleconference), Vice President; Bert Weldon, Clerk; Norm Saude (A); Don Fowler (A), Connie Schlaefer, and Ron Eldridge

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion to adopt agenda: Eldridge: Second: Schlaefer: 5/0

D. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

1. *Personnel*
2. *Potential Litigation*

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Connie Schlaefer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

II. RECOGNITIONS

A. Sierra Junior/Senior High School

1. Tony Sharp

Mr. Osterberg recognized Tony Sharp who has been a part of Sierra as an alumni and as a teacher for a long time, long enough to retire this year. He said his favorite attribute of Tony is his ability to bring out the artist in everyone. Sometimes they are kicking and screaming but he gets it out of them. Every year our student's art projects and chalk art are receiving awards at the Big Fresno Fair. Our office hallways are lined with outstanding student work that is always getting compliments. Not only is he a great teacher, but he is also a very talented artist. Mr. Osterberg went on to say that in his first year at Sierra, Tony gave him a beautiful mug and every morning he and his wife would race to be the one who got to use it. He finally had to ask for a second mug. Tony will be a very tough one to replace.

B. Facilities and Transportation

1. Wally Tobin

Jim Harris recognized Wally Tobin who is an excellent employee for our district and with the maintenance department. Over the last few months he has had to learn our energy management system and our boiler systems to keep them maintained and he is doing a good job on all of them. Over the past few weeks, Wally has been covering all of the HVAC work for the district due to a retirement in the maintenance department. He's been doing a great job keeping up with all the calls to keep everyone warm. Jim said that it was his honor to select Wally for recognition.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

IV. BOARD ORGANIZATION

A. OATH OF OFFICE: Swearing In of Newly Elected Board Members

1. Wes Qualls
2. Jason Schroer

B. ACTION ITEMS: Organization of the Board of Trustees

1. Election of the Board President
2. Election of the Board Vice President
3. Election of the Board Clerk

Ron Eldridge motioned for the current Board positions to remain the same for 2019: Second: Qualls: 7/0
2019 SUSD Board President: Chrissy Falk
2019 SUSD Vice President: Tom Mendenhall
2019 SUSD Clerk: Bert Weldon
4. Establishment of the Time, Day and Place of 2019 Regular Board Meetings ([Proposed Calendar](#))
Motion to approve the Proposed 2019 Regular Board Meeting Calendar: Eldridge: Second: Qualls: 7/0
5. Election of California School Board Association (CSBA) Legislative Representative to the District
Chrissy Falk nominated Connie Schlaefer: Second Eldridge: 7/0
2019 CSBA Legislative Representative to the District: Connie Schlaefer
6. Appointment of [Board Member Voting Representative for Fresno County](#) Committee on School District Organization Elections
Motion to appoint Bert Weldon as Voting Representative for the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization and Wes Qualls as alternate: Eldridge: Second: Mendenhall: 7/0
7. Nomination of [California School Board Association Delegate Assembly](#) (CSBA)
Ron Eldridge nominated Connie Schlaefer for CSBA Delegate Assembly: Second: Qualls: 7/0

V. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Reports

1. ASB President – Brooke Kuball
A video created by SJSHS ASB to raise money to help support the thousands of people left homeless by the Camp Fire in Butte County – Pennies for Paradise.
2. Site Reports
 - a. Foothill Elementary School, Alan Harris, Ed.D. – Principal
Dr. Harris spoke about December always being an exciting time of year at Foothill. Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at 6:30 will be the Christmas programs. This year, something exciting has been added. A while back, a Foothill Middle teacher planted a pine tree just outside the art room. This year a former Foothill Middle art student, Cori Carmichael, is teaching art at Foothill. That tree is now a sizeable Christmas tree. On Monday, the 17th, Jim and his crew along with Cori and the 5th and 6th grade students, are going to light and decorate that tree. Mrs. Carmichael and her students have made ornaments throughout the last weeks in the art classes. It's an exciting addition. This time of year is always appreciated because of our teachers and all they do to get students ready for the Christmas program. With their caring help, we're able to provide some stability in what is sometimes a challenging time of year for some students heading in to two weeks of unknown. In the midst of preparing for the Christmas program, teachers will also be assessing all of their students, meeting with Candice Corn and Joni Lloyd for the extension/intervention part, to place them in their specific spot for the Rtl / REI that starts in January. Additionally the teachers are meeting over their prep periods to review the DLA scores and preparing for the next District Learning Assessment. Their dedication and hard work is admirable, but this is a time of year that we don't always realize how much extra the teachers put in making this a fun and exciting time for the students. Sometimes it's helpful to remember the whole other layer of time that is put in. The deepest and most meaningful learning happens really happens from January through March, with a good consistent run.

- b. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal
Mr. Osterberg reported that this Friday and Saturday (12/14-15/18) at 7:30 pm is the annual Christmas Concert and will be Bruce Weinberger's last one as our Music Director. The shows are sold out. The kids are excited to perform and it's a fun time with the Elementary students coming during the day too. Two weeks ago, a new Therapist started, sharing time between Sierra and Sandy Bluffs. She's been meeting the kids, starting the organization process, and is definitely going to meet our needs for the 3rd year, the next step. This weekend, Junior High basketball is in 1st place for both boys and girls. Last weekend, the girls were down at the Reyburn Invitational Basketball Tournament, and took 1st against Clark Intermediate in the Championship game. It's very exciting.
 - c. Sandy Bluffs Alternative Education, Ara Keledjian – Director
Mr. Keledjian shared enrollment figures: Sandy Bluffs-19; Lodge Pole-18; Independent Study-23; and Oak Meadow-1. Last week were the SARB hearings, doing follow ups from prior years. Two families are in the court system at this time. This is done at the direction of the SARB panel only as a last resort and only when every other option has been exhausted. Thursday the 13th there will be a presentation from Job Corp, the program that runs separate campuses across the United States, offering job training and placement for disadvantaged students. Last year one of our students was in the Job Corp program and is now a welder. This is really good next step for a lot of our students who are about to graduate or have already graduated, and don't know exactly what they're interested in doing. It's very exciting to have that resource come here to give their presentation to Sandy Bluffs and some Sierra High students who may not have a plan for after graduation. At this time, at Sandy Bluffs, we have graduated 3 students and 2 of them have found full time employment, and the one that hasn't will be at the Job Corp presentation.
3. Superintendent Report – Melissa Ireland, Ed.D.
Dr. Ireland presented information on the [2018 CAASPP results](#), as well as a comparison between the [2017 Dashboard](#) and the [2018 Fall Dashboard](#).
 4. Department Reports
 - a. Facilities and Maintenance - Jim Harris, Supervisor
 1. [Facilities Inspection Tool \(FIT\)](#)
Mr. Harris reviewed the FIT (see above link) with the Board.
 - b. Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor
No Report
 - c. Business Services - Janelle Mehling, Assistant Superintendent
 1. [Monthly Budget Report](#)
 2. [Staffing Allocations](#)
Ms. LaBerge reviewed the Monthly Budget Report and the projected Staffing Allocations for next school year. Both can be viewed in the links above.
 - d. Education Services – Tammy Montgomery, Director
 1. [DLA Reports](#)
Mrs. Montgomery shared information regarding District Learning Assessment results. See linked summary above.
 5. Program Reports - NONE
 6. Sub-Committee Reports – NONE

B. Board Reflections

Connie Schlaefer shared a couple of her favorite thoughts from the recent CSBA Annual Education Conference (AEC). One session was about computer science and was interesting because a lot of districts have a solid, high school level computer science program. We've had a lot of movement toward technology in the last few years, with computers in the hands of students every day, the LEAP Lab, a

computer club after school, and Maker’s Space for 7th grade. We need to ask ourselves now, if a computer science program is something we want to do for our students. This is an area we need to go in. She also attended session on marketing districts and came away with a lot of ideas. And finally, with the change in state leadership, it will be interesting to see how Newsome’s interest in early education shakes out against Prop 98 and the funding for K-12 and higher education. She also finished her Board history project and brought plaques showing members of each board since Sierra unified in 1992. Jerry Schoerer is now the 1st multi-generation member with his son Jason being elected this year.

Wes Qualls spoke about the last session at the CSBA AEC, the State of the State. It was so interesting to get the insight from those people who are talking with the Governor, and talking with the people who make these key decisions. Everyone is waiting to see what Gavin Newsome is going to do with his budget. He can’t do everything he wants, but he’s certainly going to invest money in education. On our long term plan, we’re starting to address pre-school, Newsome’s big push is early childhood education. He also recently saw the last 8th grade basketball game. It was a great game with them coming from behind.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda: Qualls: Second: Eldridge: 7/0

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM: Resolutions Nos. 09-18/19, 10-18/19, 11-18/19, and 12-18/19

The board discussed closing inactive funds contained within the Sierra Unified School District budget. The following funds have not been utilized in many years and it has been the recommendation of District auditors to close such funds. Recall previous board discussion from early 2018.

Under consideration for closing:

[1701 Special Reserve for Other than Capital Outlay](#) (balance of \$3,581.54)

[2100 Building Fund](#) (balance of \$3,974.26)

[3502 County School Facilities Fund](#) (balance of \$99.31)

[6700 Self-Insurance Fund](#) (balance of \$190.73)

It is proposed that the revenue contained in the above funds be transferred to fund 4001 (Special Reserve for Capital Outlay Projects, existing balance = \$3231.06) for future modernization projects. Total of the resulting set aside to initiate savings for modernization projects would be \$11,076.90. Such action requires board resolution. Language for potential resolution is included as a supporting document, for board consideration.

Motion to approve Resolutions Nos. 09-18/19, 10-18/19, 11-18/19, and 12-18/19: Eldridge: Second: Mendenhall: 7/0

Board Member	In Favor	Opposed	Absent
Chrissy Falk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Tom Mendenhall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Bert Weldon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Jason Schroer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Wes Qualls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Connie Schlaefer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ron Eldridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

B. INFORMATION: [Newly Approved Long Range Plan](#)

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM: Approval and Certification of [First Interim Report](#) – Financial

The first Interim Report provides the Fresno County Office of Education with the current year and subsequent two years budget, based on current data, as required by law.

Motion to certify the fund report and narratives as presented and adopt a Positive Certificate: Schlaefer: Second: Qualls: 7/0

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: School Facilities Program – [Resolution #13-18/19](#)

In order to submit applications for eligibility determination for the School Facilities Program, a resolution in support of those applications from the SUSD Board of Trustees must be approved.

Motion to approve Resolution #13-18/19: Mendenhall: Second: Weldon: 7/0

Board Member	In Favor	Opposed	Absent
Chrissy Falk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Tom Mendenhall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Bert Weldon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Jason Schroer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Wes Qualls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Connie Schlaefer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ron Eldridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

C. DISCUSSION/ACTION: [Agreement Between Sierra Unified School District \(SUSD\) and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools \(FCOE\)](#)

The agreement between SUSD and FCOE, enclosed in the Board packets, is for Behavioral Health Services for the 2018-2019 school year. It must be Board approved and signed sometime in December in order for clinicians to start in January.

Motion to approve the Agreement between SUSD and FCOE for behavioral health services: Eldridge: Second: Schroer: 7/0

IX. ADVANCED PLANNING

A. [Governance Calendar](#)

B. Next Regular meeting date: January 14, 2019

C. Next Special meeting date(s): Board Workshop – TBD

D. Requested Future Agenda Items:
Monitoring Supports

7th Grade this year compared to 7th Grade last year, and the Cohort - % of eligibility

X. CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 7:34 p.m.

A. Personnel - Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint/Employment (Gov. Code § 54957)

B. Potential Litigation (Government Code 54956.9)

XI. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION The Board reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

A. Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene Open Session

B. Report Action Taken in Closed Session - NONE

XII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Chrissy Falk, President

Melissa Ireland, Ed.D, Superintendent

Bert Weldon, Clerk