

SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, February 13, 2017

5:30 pm

Virginia B. Causey Educational Center
29143 Auberry Road, Prather, CA 93651
Board Room

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mr. Ron Eldridge, Board President.

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

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion to adopt: Falk: Second: Fowler: 7/0

D. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

1. *Personnel - Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment Superintendent's Mid-Year Review Feedback / Resolution No. 14-16/17*
2. *Potential Litigation*
3. *Other Confidential Student Matters*
4. *Negotiations*

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chrissy Falk led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The following community members spoke during Public Comment:

Tery Messer, Autumn Barcus, Taylor Barcus, Joanna Dunn, Trish Anthony, Max Anthony, Kim Sorini-Wilson, Tami Alec, Ron Alec, Scott Barcus, Rob Hayden, Zack Rix, Claudine Rix, Missy Raley, Justice Jones, Hayley Ferguson, Eva Burton, Brent Kehn, Kayla Cardoza, and Theresa Rose.

BREAK: 6:29 – 6:41 pm

III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Reports

1. Superintendent Report - Melissa Ireland, Ed.D.
Dr. Ireland reported that the final payment had just been submitted on the COP for the Foothill facility. There is a meeting scheduled with Tom Zizzo, Tribal Administrator for BSR, to talk about potential partnerships for using the Sierra Elementary facility. LCAP training is continuing. Shout out to the FFA with some of the things the kids are doing now include the following: Modesto Competition where two advanced teams earned 1st and 5th and Novice did not compete; Chico, where Advanced earned 1st and 4th, Novice won 2nd, and Advanced winning 5 out of a possible 6 top chairs (Shane Wyman, Kennedy Newton, Kat Marsh, Derek Maxwell and Top Chairman Macy Myers; Novice top char was Maddie Wait and Colby Perry; and this week being FFA Week where the FFA will be hosting noontime activities all week.
2. Site Reports

- a. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal
Mr. Osterberg reported that Kat Marsh, who spoke at the last Board meeting as one of the requirements to earning State Reporter, has won Regional and now will go on to State. The WASC report has been submitted for the mid-cycle review. Visit days will be March 20th and 21st. It's an amazing process, a journey, and the staff has worked very hard. Special thanks to Tammy Montgomery, the writer of the document, who has spent countless hours trying to make the document perfect. Last Wednesday we did our All School Write for grades 7-12. For high school students, this is part of their graduation requirements. For Junior High, it was used as a teaching tool. Playoffs for Winter Sports are starting this week.
- b. Foothill Elementary School, Alan Harris – Principal
Dr. Harris joked that FES has spent a lot of time in the last few week building their repertoire of indoor games due to all the rain. The staff was impressive in their ability to move and adapt, and make things work for kids with a smile. He's proud to have them as colleagues as they navigate that world. Everyone has also been very busy with the County Spelling Bee and getting ready for the Peach Blossom Festival. Teacher Leaders met and discussed their vision of the future. They did a little activity, about writing a New York Time's article in 2024 and what the headline would be. The headline was "Flipping the Bird." They talked about it being a student's story, being educated at Foothill, and all the things achieved in the future ahead. In the coming months, they look forward to coming before the Board to talk about things like: Getting to project-based learning; having a portfolio day at the end of the school year, where students really show evidence of their work; adding an art teacher to the campus, allowing Joni Lloyd to move in and become a research and support person going forward; of really working at having mental health support for our students across all dynamics; and for our students who are average and above average, giving them a sense of dreaming big. We look forward to these steps going forward and to being a Destination School as part of a Destination District.
- c. Sandy Bluffs Alternative Education, Ara Keledjian – Director
Mr. Keledjian reported the numbers at Sandy Bluffs: Continuation-14; Oak Meadow-1; Independent Study-29; Black Mountain Adult School-19; and Lodgepole-10. Of the 14 students at SB Continuation, 8 of them are at levels 1 and 2, taking care of responsibilities, doing their work, and staying out of trouble. The 2nd round of DLA has been completed. Thanks to Sue Mitchell, Deb Irwin and Mark Stelling for all of their work helping. The All-School Write has been completed. A full day of SARB hearings was facilitated. The next Native American Parent Meeting is next Monday @ 5:00 pm at BSR. The second session of Parent University was completed at Big Sandy Rancheria, focusing on school discipline and attendance.

3. Department Reports

- a. Business Services – Janelle Mehling, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Mehling discussed some of the highlights from the Governor's Proposal for the 2016-17 State Budget. Please see link below for details.
 - 1. [Monthly Budget Report](#)
 - 2. [Governor's Proposal / 2016-17 State Budget](#)

B. Board Reflections

Connie Schlaefer shared that she was able to attend a Native American field trip with Brenda Harrison to the Fresno State Engineering Department. She helped with Pine Needle tryouts, where also Brenda was involved, and judged the local spelling bee at Foothill. She also visited the Alternative Ed programs.

Bert Weldon stated what a pleasure it's been to see how well the FFA speaking teams have been doing.

Tom Mendenhall also spoke of the FFA speaking teams and how very good they are.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda: Mendenhall: Second: Schlaefer: 7/0

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM: Second Reading of [Audit Report for 2015-2016](#)

Pursuant to Education Code 41020(i), a corrective action plan must be provided to the County Superintendent of Schools for any audit exceptions contained in the audit. There were two audit exceptions in the 2015-2016 Audit.

Motion to approve the Audit Report for 2015-2016 as written: Saude: Second: Fowler: 7/0

B. ACTION ITEM: College and Career Readiness Grant

LEAs shall develop a plan describing how funds will increase or improve services for unduplicated pupils to ensure college readiness and include information on how it aligns with the LEA's local control and accountability plan. As a condition of receipt of funds, LEAs shall report to the CDE as to how the LEA will measure the impact of the funds received on the LEA's unduplicated pupils' access and matriculation to higher education. The preliminary grant funding for the district is \$75,000, which includes indirect costs.

The College and Career Readiness Plan: The Sierra Unified School District plans to use the College Readiness Block Grant to support the college and career awareness and education.

Monies will be used to cover the costs of:

- * Administration of PSAT assessment
- * Purchase of on-line career interest surveys/information
- * Professional development for counselors and others in the area of college and career preparedness
- * Purchase of technology to support student exploration of college/career opportunities, creation of student portfolios, and to assist in the registration process
- * Support student field trips that increase awareness of college and career opportunities

The Board will be provided with an annual update on the impact of these services, which will include percentage of socio-economically disadvantaged students meeting A-G college entrance requirements; the percentage achieving standards met or standards exceeded on the statewide 11th grade English Language Arts and Mathematics required assessments; and CTE pathway completion rates of socio-economically disadvantaged students.

Motion to approve the College Readiness Block Grant Plan for the Sierra Unified School District: Schlaefer: Second: Mendenhall: 7/0

C. DISCUSSION ITEM: Approval of the [Tentative Agreement](#) for Collective Bargaining Negotiations between Sierra Unified School District and the Sierra Unified Classified Employee Association (CSEA #476). The Tentative Agreement between SUSD and CSEA #476 was entered into on January 23, 2017 and is contingent upon final approval by the SUSD Governing Board and ratification by Association Members.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION ITEM: [CSBA Legal Policy Updates – December, 2016](#)

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Approval of [Piggyback on Clovis Unified School District Bid #2467 for Computer Equipment and Supplies](#)

The Technology Committee is requesting approval to piggyback off the Clovis Unified School District Bid #2467 for the purchase of computer equipment and supplies. This is a multi-year bid and would be utilized for District purchases until its expiration in November 2017. This approval will cut the lead-time for purchases needed for current and future District projects.

Clovis Unified School District and Compuwave have agreed to the piggyback. Fresno County Office of Education suggested piggyback procedures have been followed.

Motion to authorize the purchase of computer equipment and supplies to be awarded to Compuwave, the terms and conditions of bid awarded by Clovis Unified School District pursuant to the provisions of Public Contract Code 20119, this being in the best interest of the District: Saude: Second: Weldon: 7/0

C. DISCUSSION ITEM: Appeal to Williams Act Complaints Decision (Education Code Section 35146 and 20 U.S.C. Section 1232g)

The Board heard an appeal by parents, Trish and Max Anthony regarding a Williams Act Complaint decision. Complainant requested to be heard in open session.

IX. ADVANCED PLANNING

A. Governance Calendar

1. March 13, 2017 Items
 - a. Native American Education Program Report
 - b. DLA #2 Results
 - c. Second Interim Report
 - d. Certificated Notices
 - e. Certification of Coaches Training
 - f. Academic Calendar Approval

B. Next Regular meeting date: March 13, 2017

C. Next Special meeting date(s)

1. District Needs Workshop / Board Self-Evaluation – March 28, 2017 / 5:00 pm

D. Requested Future Agenda Items

1. Ed Code / Pole Corral

X. CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 8:36 p.m. / Reconvene at 8:38 p.m. / Closed Session 8:45 pm

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

1. [Resolution No. 14-16/17](#)
2. Superintendent's Mid-Year Review Feedback

B. Potential Litigation (Government Code 54956.9)

C. Other Confidential Student Matters (Education Code Section 35146 and 20 U.S.C. Section 1232g)

D. Employee Bargaining Group Negotiations – CSEA (Government Code Section 54957.6)

XI. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- A. Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene Open Session - The Meeting was reconvened at 9:50 p.m.
- B. Report Action Taken in Closed Session (Education Code 48918(j))
Motion to Deny Appeal to Williams Act Decision: Fowler: Second: Falk: 7/0

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Ron Eldridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Chrissy Falk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Tom Mendenhall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Norm Saude	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Bert Weldon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Don Fowler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Connie Schlaefer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

The Board, along with Legal Counsel, Megan Macy, Lozano Smith, took some time to explain and answer questions regarding the decision and agreed to bring back, as an agenda item in March, the temporary closure of Pole Corral School.

CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees went back into Closed Session at 10:15 p.m.

Report Action Taken in Closed Session (Education Code 48918(j))
Mr. Eldridge reported on Resolution #14-16/17 the district deciding not to re-employ probationary certificated employee based on the requirements of Education Code Section 44929.21

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Ron Eldridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Chrissy Falk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Tom Mendenhall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Norm Saude	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Bert Weldon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Don Fowler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Connie Schlaefer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

XII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Ron Eldridge, President

Melissa Ireland, Ed.D, Superintendent

Tom Mendenhall, Clerk