



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Mrs. Chrissy Falk, Board President.

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

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

D. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

1. *Personnel*
2. *Employee Bargaining Negotiations*

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Bert Weldon led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

F. MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board honored the life of Terry Therkildsen,

II. PRESENTATION

A. Sierra High Jazz Band

The Board and audience were treated to a performance by the Sierra High Jazz Band.

III. RECOGNITIONS

A. Foothill Elementary School

Mr. Harris was honored to recognize two exemplary employees on the Eagle Campus. **Sherrie Rippee and Wayne Nash** work every night at Foothill making sure the school is clean and ready to go each and every day for all of our teachers and young scholars. They are the quiet heroes that work tirelessly to assure our students have the best. As a newly named principal Mr. Harris attended the carnival in 2016 and had the good fortune to meet Wayne Nash. Wayne reminded him of Crocodile Dundee and proceeded to tell him how he “takes care” of rattle snakes with a trash picker. Wayne also let him know he would be happy to bring him some snake jerky. That first meeting was a sign of things to come, and he continues to look forward each day to Wayne’s sense of humor and love for Foothill. From that first meeting, through the summer and all day’s since, Wayne to represents the best of our district. He takes pride in his work and of those he supervises. Whether it is showing a picture of something he had to clean in the bathroom so that it can be prevented from happening or coming to the rescue for the PFA by fixing the sound system for movie night, Wayne takes ownership. He once said, “This is your school. We want to do what you need done for kids.” He does that and so much more. Wayne is also smart when it comes to listening. Mr. Harris recognized early on that Wayne listens closely to Sherrie. Sherrie is the number one most coveted cleaner at Foothill. In my first month on the job had four teachers came to say, “Why can’t we have Sherrie clean our room? She is the best ever.” They spoke the truth. Sherrie is often quiet and lets Wayne say his piece, but she is a lynch pin in the work that gets done every night at Foothill. Watching her for a bit at the end of the Christmas Program in the cafeteria, she works hard, makes it fun for others, takes pride and gets so many jobs done. Sherrie Rippee has the industriousness, kindness and integrity we hope every Eagle student learns. We are most grateful to Wayne and Sherrie for all of their service to Foothill and the district. They truly represent our Eagle Best!

B. Sandy Bluffs Alternative Education

Mr. Keledjian honored **Jacki Badoni** who came to Sandy Bluffs the same year as he did and has been an instrumental team member in all changes that have occurred since. She is the only clerical staff for Sandy Bluffs, Preschool, Independent Study, Adult School, and now Daycare. She keeps all calendars, works with the SARB process, and facilitates communication between all the different programs we oversee, and Sierra Jr/Sr. High School as well as Foothill Elementary. She is part of the PLC that reviews student progress each week at Sandy Bluffs and is a respected member of that team, as she often has insight into students that other don't. Her warm and inviting personality have had an impact in our Adult School enrollment, as the word in the community is "Go see Jackie to enroll" which is much easier to do than to "Go to the school office". She is the mother to many of the Sandy Bluffs students and watches out for their well-being, making sure they have clothing, food, and everything else mothers do for their children. She even puts Band-Aids on booboos. She upholds high expectations for students in the cafeteria and office, as those areas are her classroom. There is a lot of learning that occurs in those two classrooms, and Jackie is the student's teacher there. In addition to her work within Sierra Unified, she also works within the community as an MCRF coach, Sierra High assistant basketball coach, and coordinator of the annual Morris E. Lee basketball tournament. She is starting a new adult basketball league, and is an officer on the Native American Parent Committee. She recently facilitated and is taking a group of high school students to a youth leadership conference at UCLA, all the while continuing her own education through online courses and night school. For all of these reasons, and for many others that have not been mentioned, she is very deserving of this recognition.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Donna Hallman shared her concerns regarding behavior on school busses.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Reports

1. ASB President – Rachel Beckmann
Kat Marsh, ASB Vice President, filling in for Miss Beckman, reported on recent and upcoming ASB activities, including: Preparation for Prom on April 28th at the Smittcamp Alumni House at Fresno State; a possible Jamba Juice fundraiser to raise money for Prom and end-of-the-year activities; and a possible Black Light Rally.
2. Site Reports
 - a. Foothill Elementary School, Alan Harris – Principal
Dr. Harris highlighted a couple of things happening at Foothill. The 3rd/4th playground area has a new swing set and a new climbing piece, made possible by Jim Harris and his crew. This was at the request of a student who came by and said that he thought it was very lame that their playground didn't have a swing set. There is new fun on the 3rd & 4th playground, letting kids know they can change the world. After a 4th grade Teacher was going over how government works, and how you process laws and proposals, a group of 4th grade students wrote a letter with a proposal. Four teachers and four students sat down equally in a meeting to talk about the proposal. One of the 4th grade students said, "Look this is what we've got to do. We've got to bring the whole school to the back of the school on the end of the day on a Friday. We need to have a snack bar and have music and dancing. It'll be like Shablamo!" This Friday, from 2:00 to 2:45, all of the student body is going to be able to go to the backside of the school. PFA will be providing snacks they can buy with their SOARing tickets. We'll have music and games, and dress up days during the week. It'll all happen because 4th grade students said we should make something happen. It's exciting to see how students are getting involved in having fun on campus.
 - b. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal
Mr. Osterberg shared a [CTEIG Grant Wish List](#), linked here, showing how we might use the funds to make our CTE pathways more current. CTEIG Grant is a match fund dollar for dollar in a three year cycle intended for use to purchase bigger ticket needs to help further the CTE programs. We are in the 2nd year right now and still need to spend some funds from the 1st cycle.

c. Sandy Bluffs Alternative Education, Ara Keledjian – Director
Mr. Keledjian reported that this year we have 3 graduates from Adult School, 4 High School Independent Study graduates, 3 from Sandy Bluffs High School, and a total of 32 students going through Sandy Bluffs. Only 2 of these students have broken their contracts to be able to return to Sierra High. At Oak Meadow 2 students will be attending very soon, and at Lodge Pole we have 17 students. Two goals prepared for the Adult School Consortium are to fine tune the older adult welding program, with 3 or 4 month sessions focusing on certification as opposed to a year-long ROP class. On the academic side, we're looking at utilizing online course work for more CTE within the adult school community. On Monday will be another SARB hearing with 10 families attending. The elementary, junior, and high schools are very good at addressing attendance issues, so that by the time it gets to a SARB hearing, all avenues have been exhausted by the sites in order to improve a family's attendance. A call from one of our local church pastors revealed that there is a kid who has been attending youth group but does not go to school. We will be enrolling the student as an unaccompanied youth under the Foster Homeless education. It is good that the word in the community is that if you find a kid who is not going to school, get them to us. We have a program for them.

3. Superintendent Report - Melissa Ireland, Ed.D.

Dr. Ireland spoke about being well into presenting the features of the LCAP to our stakeholder groups for this year. Two of the stakeholder groups are students. Last week she met with the Sierra High School Leadership students, and then met with the entire student body at Sandy Bluffs. Basically she talked about the things that are being worked on, and asked questions to attempt to illicit responses from the students on how we can get better. At Sandy Bluffs she was struck by the contrast of the way they felt about the school four years ago, and how they felt about it now. Students used to believe this was where the bad, stupid, loser kids went, as opposed to now believing that the school is great place to be. They talked about what a good environment it is and how the teachers care for them, and listen to them. Every Senior in that room knew what they were going to do next year, and had no intentions of transferring back to Sierra. One had been provisionally accepted to Fresno State. One was going into the Fire Academy. It was a great conversation and very positive, and the same would be said about the conversation with the Leadership class at Sierra, who spoke about their great teachers and how good it is there. They suggested more materials and practice assessments for AP to improve the pass rate, and more communication with the students about the opportunities. They also felt very safe at school and appreciated the drills. The Native American Parent group was also presented to, as well as the Site Council at the Jr./Sr. High School. There was also an opportunity to observe the PLC at Alternative Ed. All the staff gets together each week and talk about virtually every student that they have. They are undertaking the charge of making sure that every student who graduates from that school has their OSHA certificate, CPR, food preparation certificate, and a resume put together so that when they leave they are ready to apply for a job. Next week Janelle Mehling, Sue Mitchell and Dr. Ireland will be attending a meeting on our LCAP. The state is now requiring every district who receives federal funding in the form of Title I, to include an addendum on the LCAP to show how our federal funding is tied into our LCAP goals. On the consent agenda you'll find two years of academic calendars, showing that the Teacher collaboration time is being moved to every Monday morning. This came about because the old way on some Wednesday afternoons didn't seem to make sense to parents and was difficult to plan for early release. There was always a scramble making sure kids got on the right busses home because parents had to change plans based on the early release. The possibility of a late start every week was talked about in management with the Principals, and how it would affect the staff. Issues were addressed such as allowing parents to drop off early to get to work. The vast majority of the staff agreed that the late start would work well.

4. Department Reports

- a. Facilities and Maintenance - Jim Harris, Supervisor
No Report
- b. Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor
No Report

- c. Business Services - Janelle Mehling, Assistant Superintendent
 - 1. [Monthly Budget Report](#)
Mrs. Mehling shared that she went to the Fresno County Office of Education Chief Business Official's meeting where one of the topics they were talking about was the proposals in the House and the Senate in California about LCAP funding. What the Governor has proposed and what is included in the 2nd Interim multi-year projections that are coming up, is about \$300 ADA going to the base. The Assembly Bill would add a 60% bonus to the base. For us that would mean, next year with the Governor's proposal we would get 13.8 million. With the Assembly proposal, we would get over 20 million. The Senate wants to take the one-time money allocated and add that to the base. We'll keep an eye on what's going on there, as we get more information. To view the monthly budget report, click on the link above.
- d. [Curriculum and Instruction](#) – Sue Mitchell, Director
Mrs. Mitchell reviewed the CAASPP Interim Comprehensive Assessment (ICA) results with the Board. Details in above link.

5. Program Reports

- a. [Native American Education](#) – Gavin Begaye
Mr. Begaye updated the Board on Native American education, career, and cultural exploration. Please see link above for details.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. NONE

B. Board Reflections

Connie Schlaefer spoke about being able to do the spelling bee, and to help with the Pine Needle Festival. She also went to Reedley College on one of the Native American field. It was so engaging. The kids, in a Criminal Justice class, sat down with the college students. The Teacher made those kids feel so important. They went to see Aviation Technology Mechanics, Welding, and the Vet Science area. It was a wonderful exposure.

Don Fowler shared that one the favorite movies in his family is "Breaking Away". It's about kids in Indiana, whose parents are stone cutters and who cannot see themselves going to Indiana University. One young man broke away from his friends and decided he was going to become a student at that school. In relation to the Native American Education report and the students being able to visit colleges, when those kids see themselves in place where they could be. There is a place for them, and as they see that, their opportunities explode. It's wonderful what's being done, showing the students that there are opportunities open and available to them. That's the world.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda: Eldridge: Second: Schlaefer: 5/0

VI. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Review and Certification of the [2017–2018 Second Interim Financial Statement](#) as of January 31, 2017** The State-required forms, along with various schedules representing analysis used in the development of the Second Interim Report, were provided in the Board packet and online. The Second 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 Certification: Schlaefer: Second: Eldridge: 5/0

- B. DISCUSSION ITEM: [LCAP Update](#)**
Dr. Ireland reviewed areas identified for funding based on data, and Department and community input. Click on the above link for details.
- C. DISCUSSION ITEM: [Foothill Art and Extension](#)**
Principal, Alan Harris discussed strategies and process regarding moving forward, implementing art and extended learning, defining Destination District, and comprehensive change. Please see link above for presentation details.
- D. DISCUSSION ITEM: District Planning – [Getting to the Destination District](#)**
Superintendent, Melissa Ireland presented a proposal to engage in strategic planning for the 2018-2019 school term. The link above outlines the details. This will be brought back as an Action Item at the April 9th Board Meeting, with direction to choose a facilitator to guide that effort.
- E. INFORMATION: School Safety Update**
In light of recent incidents of school violence, Superintendent Ireland shared a plan for engaging students and community in dialogue related to school safety. Click [here](#) for handout.

VIII. ADVANCED PLANNING

- A. [Governance Calendar](#)**
- B.** Next Regular meeting date: April 9, 2018
- C.** Next Special meeting date(s):
- D.** Requested Future Agenda Items:

IX. CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 9:14 p.m.

- A.** Personnel - Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint/Employment (Gov. Code § 54957)
 - 1. Resolution No. 11-17/18
 - 2. Resolution No. 12-17/18
- B.** Employee Bargaining Group Negotiations (Government Code Section 54957.6)

X. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION The Board reconvened at 10:22 p.m

- A.** Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene Open Session
- B.** Report Action Taken in Closed Session

During the closed session held earlier tonight, the Board took action authorizing the District Superintendent or her designee to notify certain certificated administrators of their possible release and reassignment from their administrative positions for the 2018-2019 school year by the following roll call vote:

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

Additionally during the closed session held earlier tonight, the Board voted to non-reelect certain probationary certificated employees pursuant to Education Code section 44929.21 and authorized the District Superintendent or her designee to notify the probationary certificated employees of their non-re-election for the 2018-2019 school year by the following roll call vote:

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

XI. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

Chrissy Falk, President

Melissa Ireland, Ed.D, Superintendent

Bert Weldon, Clerk