

MINUTES**CERES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT****MEETING – BOARD OF TRUSTEES****October 19, 2017, 7:00 PM – District Office Board Room****2503 Lawrence Street – Ceres, California****REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**

Present for the regular scheduled meeting were: President Teresa Guerrero, Trustees Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane, Lourdes Perez and Valli Wigt. Absent: Trustee Mike Welsh and Student Representatives Josh Madariaga and Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo. Others present: Dr. Scott Siegel, Superintendent; Dr. Denise Wickham, Deputy Superintendent of Personnel Services; Dr. Amy Peterman, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services; Jay Simmonds, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services; and Dan Pangrazio, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services.

1. **OPEN SESSION – 5:00 PM – District Office – Conference Room C**
 - a. **Public Comment**
President Guerrero opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. for public comment. There was no one wishing to address the Board.
 - b. **Study Session - Strategic Plan - LCAP Evaluation (2016-2017 Results)**
 - c. **Study Session - CAASPP Reporting and 2017 Results**
 - d. **Adjourn to Closed Session**
2. **CLOSED SESSION – Conference Room C**
 - a. **Public Employee – Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Government Code Section 54947)**
 - b. **Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6)**
 - Agency Designated Representatives: Scott Siegel, Denise Wickham and David Viss
 - Employee Organizations: CUTA and CSEA
 - c. **Conference with Legal Counsel - Potential Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9 [d])**
 - One Case
 - d. **Public Employment (Government Code Section 54957)**
 - Title: Superintendent Evaluation
 - e. **Student Discipline/Expulsions (Education Code 35146)**
 - f. **Reconvene to Open Session**
3. **PUBLIC MEETING – 7:00 PM – Board Room**
The meeting was convened to Open Session, where President Guerrero called the Public Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with a quorum present. The salute to the flag was given and Ken Sylvia of Youth for Christ gave the invocation.
4. **COMMENDATION/SCHOOL PRESENTATION SECTION**
 - a. **Parks Elementary School Presentation – *Intervention for All***
Principal Jennifer Backman reported that Parks Elementary is focusing this year on English Language Arts and Math Indicators, chronic absenteeism, the English Learners (EL) subgroup, and roadmap focus areas. Ms. Backman introduced teacher Irma Carrera who reported on an EL

Task Force composed of teachers, classified staff, and District personnel. Ms. Backman reported on roadmap areas focusing on ELs, and on intervention efforts including the addition of two instructional paraprofessionals for reading support. Ms. Backman introduced paraprofessionals Maise Rodas and Leticia Rodriguez, who reported on the impact of their work with students and introduced students who shared their perspectives.

At this time, President Guerrero thanked the presenters and offered the opportunity for those in attendance for the School Presentation to exit the meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

a. Opportunity for the Board and Administration to Adjust the Published Agenda

President Guerrero offered the opportunity to make adjustments to the published Agenda. No adjustments were requested.

6. HEARING SECTION

a. Opportunity for Citizens to Address Items Not on the Agenda

President Guerrero opened a public hearing for those wishing to address an item not on the Agenda. With no one wishing to address the Board, the public hearing was closed.

7. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Lane reported that direction was given to legal counsel in Closed Session.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting of September 21, 2017
- b. Ratification of Warrants
- c. Ratification of Employment
- d. Ratification of Contracts and Agreements
- e. Disposal of District Property
- f. Notice of Completion for the Concrete Flatwork at Blaker-Kinser Junior High School
- g. Notice of Completion for the Stadium Lighting at Central Valley High School
- h. Recommended Approval of Claim for Damages

Trustee Perez moved and Trustee Wigt seconded to approve Consent Agenda items a-h.
Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero.
Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

9. ACTION SECTION

a. Consideration of Student Expulsions

Trustee Davis moved, and Trustee Lane seconded to approve the Administrative Panel's recommendations regarding Student Expulsion Case Numbers EX02-17/18 and EX03-17/18.
Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero.
Absent: Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

b. Provisional Internship Permits

Deputy Superintendent of Personnel Services Dr. Denise Wickham reported that the District is required to submit to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing Provisional Internship Permit applications for the 2017-2018 school year. Staff is requesting that the following CUSD teachers be employed on Provisional Internship Permits:

Edith Castillo - 1st Grade Teacher, Lucas Elementary - Program: CSU, Stanislaus

Katelyn Ayala - ELA Teacher, Blaker-Kinser Junior High - Program: CSU, Stanislaus

Dr. Wickham reported that, upon successful completion of a credential program, each of these individuals will be eligible to obtain a preliminary credential.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Wigt seconded to approve the Provisional Internship Permits. Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero. Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

c. Classified Management Salary Schedule

Dr. Wickham reported that, at the Board meeting of September 21, 2017, the Board approved a job description for the new Supervisor of Accounting position, to be paid at Range AG of the Classified Management Salary Schedule. Accordingly, Dr. Wickham presented for review and action by the Board of Trustees an updated Classified Management Salary Schedule reflecting the addition of a line to Range AG to include the new Supervisor of Accounting position. No other changes to the salary schedule are proposed.

Trustee Perez moved and Trustee Lane seconded to approve the Classified Management Salary Schedule as presented. Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero. Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

d. Final Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Central Valley High School Six-Classroom Addition, Building M

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Dan Pangrazio reported that, as part of the Lease-Lease Back delivery method, JL Bray & Son, Inc. (JL Bray) was selected as the Best Value Instrument by the Ceres Unified Board of Trustees subsequent to the issuance of the request for sealed proposals by the District. The proposals were evaluated, interviews were conducted, proposals were ranked, and the announcement was made that JL Bray was to be awarded the contract.

Mr. Pangrazio reported that, since the contract was awarded, JL Bray has prepared a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal for the project which includes objectively verifiable information of its costs to perform the services requested. This information, along with a written rationale for the price, was presented in detail to the District by JL Bray on October 6 and the parties are in agreement regarding the final GMP for the project.

Board acceptance of the price will allow JL Bray to proceed with the CVHS six-classroom addition (Building M). Completion is estimated by the beginning of 2018-2019; however, staff will be working closely with site staff on a “Plan B” in the event of a heavy rain season.

Trustee Kinard moved and Trustee Lane seconded to adopt as presented Resolution No. 06-17/18 to accept the GMP amount of \$3,510,599.00 and financing terms. Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero. Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

e. Proposed Revision to Board Policy 5113.2 - Work Permits

Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services Jay Simmonds reported that staff is requesting a Board policy change regarding work permits for unique situations in which students who have below a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA), and who are on track to graduate, may be issued a work permit. This policy change will be utilized on a very limited basis and with the approval of the Superintendent, or designee. The proposed revision was presented for review at the September 21, 2017 Board meeting.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Wigt seconded to approve as presented the proposed revision to Policy 5113.2 - Work Permits. Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero. Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

f. **Board Policy July 2017 Revisions**

Dr. Siegel reported that, in the process of maintaining and updating our Board Policies and Administrative Regulations to comply with current law and the California School Boards Association (CSBA) recommendations, a draft copy of the July 2017 updates and proposed revisions was made available for Board Member review and first reading at the August 31, 2017 meeting, with a clean copy of the proposed revisions presented for a second reading at the September 21, 2017 meeting. At that meeting, the Board requested that Board Policy (BP) 0100 - Vision, be omitted from the packet for review and revision at a later date. The policy packet was so adjusted.

Trustee Lane moved and Trustee Kinard seconded to approve as presented the July 2017 Board Policy Revisions. Ayes: Lourdes Perez, Valli Wigt, Betty Davis, Jim Kinard, Faye Lane and Teresa Guerrero. Absent: Josh Madariaga, Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo and Mike Welsh. Motion carried.

10. INFORMATION & STUDY

a. **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Siegel reported that he had the pleasure of attending a harvest festival that Central Valley High School hosted for all CUSD kindergarten students. Poor air quality due to smoke from wildfires throughout the state improved in time to avoid cancelling the event, and both high school and kindergarten students had a positive and enjoyable experience. Dr. Siegel reported that he met with Kohei Sasai, the principal of Japan's Kyoto Gakuen High School, whose students are visiting CUSD high schools. They enjoyed discussing active learning (student engagement), and Mr. Sasai later hosted a dinner that Dr. Siegel attended. Dr. Siegel reported that he and Coordinator of Student Support Services Brian Murphy recently attended a Healthy Kids Symposium where ideas about improving student nutrition were presented. Dr. Siegel reported on his informal site visits to date, and noted that he looks forward to a District-wide professional development day and Board tour of CUSD facilities on October 30. Dr. Siegel congratulated the Ceres High School Manufacturing Academy on winning the National Excellence Award in Career Technical Pathways. The program will be recognized in St. Louis, Missouri.

b. **Board Report**

Student Representatives Josh Madariaga of Ceres High School and Allyson Zuleta-Alonzo of Central Valley High School were not present to report.

The Trustees reported on their attendance at site, District and community events, and the California Latino School Boards Association Unity Conference.

c. **Association Report**

Desirae Uhte, Membership and Community Outreach Chair of the Ceres Unified Teachers Association (CUTA), reported that, as schools wrap up the first trimester, there is positive conversation and feedback regarding pre-report card conferences being a great time to meet with families and discuss classroom expectations and performance. Ms. Uhte reported that 54 teachers gathered the prior Friday to paint a winter window scene at the CUTA office.

Andrew Lopshire, Vice President of California School Employees Association, Chapter 140 (CSEA), reported that negotiations between CSEA and the District are scheduled on Friday,

and a night-time golf tournament to raise scholarship funds for the children of CSEA members is coming up on November 18 at St. Stanislaus Golf Course.

d. **Dual-Language Program**

Dr. Siegel reported that he had an opportunity to consider all elementary sites within the District, and meet with staff from one site, regarding a possible expansion of the District's dual-language program. Caswell Elementary makes the most sense for a number of reasons, including an EL population above 50 percent, parent interest in a dual-language program at the site, school size, and an absence of mainstreaming issues relative to special education. Dr. Siegel presented a chart of information relative to this decision. Upon consensus of the Board, staff will move forward with plans to convert Caswell to a dual-language academy, including the scheduling of parent meetings to garner feedback, and an action item on the November 9 or December 7 Board meeting agenda. Roll-out would begin next year with kindergarten and would expand a grade level per year.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the conversion of Caswell Elementary School to a dual-language immersion program.

e. **2017 CAASPP Results**

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Amy Peterman continued a presentation begun during the study session earlier on the agenda, reviewing math data including percentages of students meeting/exceeding standards or not meeting standards, proximity to state targets, changes from the prior year, and comparisons with county and state results.

Dr. Peterman reported on the District response to the data and ongoing efforts to best meet the learning needs of students, including a focus on the roll-out of math standards, facilitation of increased use of the adopted curriculum, development and administration of District Common Summative Assessments to be administered at all grade levels in 2017-2018, work with the Stanislaus Futures Math Action Team, and formation of a District Math Action Team. Dr. Peterman also reported on site-specific efforts that include digging into the instructional needs of students, focusing on the Professional Learning Community process, providing common assessments, analyzing data, and making intervention decisions.

Dr. Peterman presented subgroup data for both Math and English Language Arts, noting a focus on results and connecting our strategic plan, District LCAP, roadmap statements, and Focus on Achievement presentations.

f. **Suspension Rate Indicator**

Director of Child Welfare and Attendance Jose Beltran presented information about the Suspension Rate Indicator as part of the California School Dashboard, noting that data is based on the number of students suspended anytime during the school year, excluding multiple suspensions for the same student. Mr. Beltran presented a chart of statewide suspension data comparing 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 (the latest data available from the state), and charts of District data by elementary, junior high and high school level, by site, and by subgroups.

Dr. Peterman noted that the Dashboard for Argus/Endeavor is still being developed by the state. A different Dashboard is available for Whitmore Charter Schools.

Mr. Beltran reported that the District is focused on providing actionable data to sites, with a goal of continuous progress in changing outcomes through decriminalization of low-level behaviors that pose no public-safety threat; eradication of zero-tolerance policies and development of culturally sustaining and appropriate pedagogies centered on student communication and learning; trauma-sensitive schools and classrooms which identify the

roots of student behavior and provide appropriate resources; use of suspensions/expulsions/arrest only in cases of immediate safety threats and/or lack of other appropriate interventions; and continued training regarding unconscious bias/racial microaggressions.

Mr. Beltran reiterated the importance of appropriate discipline, supported by student services, and thanked the Trustees for their commitment to providing social/emotional supports at school sites.

g. Facility Improvement Plan Update

Mr. Pangrazio reviewed the District’s updated Master Facility Improvement Plan as of the end of October 10, 2017, reflecting items completed since the last update to the Board, and a prioritized list of projects for each site with estimated completion timelines and status.

h. Westport Elementary Water Grant Applications

Mr. Pangrazio reported that there are two grant opportunities for Westport Elementary School that could result in an increase of locations on campus that provide potable drinking water. Currently the system at Westport blends uranium and nitrates to meet drinking standards, however, the system can only serve a limited number of fixtures on the site. The short-term grant could result in point-of-use devices being utilized to treat the water at the fixture, and the long-term grant would provide a more permanent upgrade such as tying into City of Ceres water or significantly expanding the water treatment system at the site.

Mr. Pangrazio reported that an action item will be placed on the November 9 Board agenda designating an authorized representative to sign off on the applications and any subsequent financial agreements related to the grants.

i. Proposed Revision to BP 3100

Mr. Pangrazio provided an update on proposed changes to the current Board Policy for Business and Noninstructional Operations (BP 3100). The proposed revisions include opening a Furniture Replacement Resource with a target balance between \$100,000 and \$250,000, opening a Technology Replacement Resource with a target balance between \$100,000 and \$250,000, increasing the Maintenance Fund Resource target balance from \$1,000,000 to between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000, and reopening the Deferred Maintenance Fund with a target balance sufficient to meet identified needs. The proposed revision will be brought for action at the November 9 Board meeting.

11. RESEARCH

“Educating California’s Children and Youth: A Summary of the Findings from a Survey of Voters about K-12 Schools,” *Berkeley IGS Poll*, September 2017

Dr. Siegel noted that only 33 percent of respondents to the survey ranked test scores as highly important. Decreasing suspension rates ranked lower still. Creating a positive school environment ranked highest among respondent priorities, followed by higher graduation rates and preparing students to enter college or the workforce.

“Signs of hope amid Smarter Balanced math scores,” *EdSource*, October 8, 2017

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Siegel, Ed.D.
Secretary to the Board of Trustees