

**FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**125 East Bidwell Street**  
**Folsom, California 95630**

August 7, 2003

MINUTES

Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting  
Folsom High School  
Library  
1655 Iron Point Road  
Folsom, California 95630

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teresa A. Stanley, Board President  
Roger L. Benton, Board Vice President  
Sara Myers, Board Member  
Richard Shaw, Board Member  
Edward Short, Board Member  
Stephanie Shaffer, Student Board Member

August 7, 2003

Board members present: Teresa Stanley, Roger Benton, Sara Myers, Richard Shaw, and Edward Short.

5:00 p.m. – Open Session                      CALL TO ORDER (Held in Library)  
President Stanley announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:05 p.m. – Closed Session                      (Held in Library)

6:00 p.m. – Open Meeting                      (Held in Library)

Meeting convened at 6:10 p.m. President Stanley called the meeting to order. Intel's Flo Robinson and Leroy Tripette led the flag salute.

**PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT**

President Stanley requested a moment of silence in memory of Carol Orr, White Rock teacher, who recently passed away.

**REPORTING OUT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

Superintendent Siefkin asked Mark Rickabaugh, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, to report out on routine action taken in closed session regarding certificated and classified personnel.

**PERSONNEL MATTERS** (Approved in Closed Session)

**CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

SHAW/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE routine certificated personnel items.  
MOTION CARRIED 4 AYES, 1 ABSTAIN (MYERS).

**CERTIFICATED EMPLOYMENT**

The following are being hired with Temporary status for the 2003/2004 school year:

- Paula Alexander, Teacher (#991699, #991655, #991960), Mills Middle School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD Credential; BA + 45; Class 3, Step 10.
- Pirkko Amaral, Teacher (#990084), Cordova Meadows Elementary School, Multiple Subject/CLAD/Supplementary Authorization English Credential; BA + 46; Class 3, Step 1.

- Shara Bachman, Teacher (#204014), Blanche Sprentz Elementary School, Multiple Subject/CLAD Credential;BA; Class 2, Step 1.
- Julie Bennett, Teacher (#203170, #202521, #202036), Mills Middle School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/CLAD Credential; BA + 64; Class 4, Step 6.
- Darsie Bonillo, Teacher (#990053), Cordova Lane Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/General Subjects Credential; BA + 44; Class 2, Step 1.
- Cameron Boquet, Teacher (#202018), Empire Oaks Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD Credential; BA + 47; Class 3, Step 1.
- Angi Carlomagno, Teacher (#202020), Empire Oaks Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/General Subjects Credential; BA; Class 2, Step 1.
- Raymond Chayo, Teacher (#991803), Folsom High School, Life Standard Secondary Mathematics/English/Clear Bilingual Certificate of Competence Spanish Credential; BA + 45 1/3; Class 3, Step 10.
- Ellen Chrismer, Teacher (#991918), Cordova High School Preliminary Single Subject/CLAD Emphasis English Credential; BA + 18; Class 2, Step 1.
- Mike Collier, Teacher (#991574), Sutter Middle School, Preliminary Single Subject Physical Education/Supplementary Introductory Science Credential; BA + 75; Class 5, Step 3.
- Megan Cook, Teacher (#991914), Cordova High School, Preliminary Single Subject Science/Chemistry/CLAD Credential; BA + 33; Class 2, Step 1.
- Christopher Devine, Teacher (#990026), Cordova Lane Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/English Learner Authorization Credential; BA + 45; Class 3, Step 1.
- Martha Ditter, Teacher (#991636) (#991658), Mills Middle School, Professional Clear Single Subject Art/Supplementary Authorization Introductory General Science Credential; BA + 78 1/3; Class 5, Step 13.
- Taylor Downey, Teacher (#991604), Sutter Middle School, Preliminary Single Subject Science/Geosciences Credential; BS + 36; Class 2, Step 1.
- Joyce Enrado, Teacher (#990255), Cordova Gardens Elementary School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD Credential; BA + 53; Class 3, Step 1.
- Amber Fontaine, Teacher (#990131), Cordova Villa Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/ CLAD Credential; BA + 23; Class 2, Step 1.
- Randall Fritz, Military Instructor (#203124), Mather Youth Academy, Designated Subject Special Subjects/ROTC Credential; BA; Class 2, Step 1.
- Carolyn Frost, Teacher (#200254), Mills Middle School, Professional Clear Single Subject Social Science/Supplementary Authorization Introductory Mathematics Credential; BA + 102 2/3; Class 5, Step 10.
- Mary Golden, Teacher (#990032), Cordova Lane Elementary School, Clear Multiple Subject/General Subject Credential; BA + 30 2/3; Class 2 Step 3.
- Wendy Goyette, Teacher (#991669, #991655, #991636), Mills Middle School, Preliminary MultipleSubject/General Subjects Credential; BS; Class 2, Step 1.
- Julie Headrick, Teacher (#991651), Mills Middle School; Professional Clear Multiple Subject /CLAD Credential; BA + 52 2/3/MA + 12 2/3; Class 5, Step 9.
- Amy Jacobsen, Teacher (#204062), Mather Heights Elementary School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/CLAD Credential; BA + 60 2/3; Class 4, Step 8.
- Richard Johnson, Military Instructor (#200114), Mather Youth Academy, Designated Subject Special Subjects/ROTC Credential; AA + 67 2/3; Class V, Step 1.
- Jill Jones, Teacher (#202042) (80% Time), Folsom Middle School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/Supplementary Authoriation Physical Education/Introductory English Credential; BA + 64/MS; Class 5, Step 8.

- David Levasseur, Teacher (#991571), Sutter Middle School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD/Supplementary Authorization Science Credential; BA + 68 1/3; Class 4, Step 5.
- Carol Madison-Knipp, Counselor (#204059), Cordova High School, Professional Clear Pupil Personnel Services School Counseling Credential; BS +/MS; Class 5, Step 3.
- Troy Martinez, Teacher (#990087), Cordova Meadows Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/CLAD/Supplementary Authorization English;Science Credential; BA + 47; Class 3, Step 2.
- William McGarvey, Military Instructor (#203124), Mather Youth Academy, Designated Subject Special Subjects/ROTC Credential; 52 Units; Class III, Step 1.
- Shelby Miller, Teacher (#991617), Sutter Middle School, Professional Clear Single Subject Physical Education/Introductory Mathematics Credential; BA + 69 1/3/MA/Class 5, Step 3.
- Michelle Purvis, Teacher (#990740), Cordova High School, Single Subject Science/Biological Sciences Credential; BA + 42; Class 2, Step 4.
- Deborah Robbins, Counselor (#204054), Folsom High School, Professional Clear Pupil Personnel Services School Counseling Credential; BA + 42/MS; Class 3, Step 2.
- David Rominger, Military Instructor (#200115), Mather Youth Academy, Designated Subject Special Subjects/ROTC Credential; Class II, Step 1.
- Greg Rubinoff, Teacher (#991730), Kinney High School, Preliminary Single Subject Mathematics/CLAD Credential; BS + 124 + 5% for Juris Doctorate; Class 5, Step 1.
- Heather Rush, Teacher (#204055), Folsom Middle School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD; Credential; BA + 98 2/3; Class 5, Step 2.
- Suzanne Solorzano, Teacher (#203031), Empire Oaks Elementary School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/CLAD Credential; BA + 68 2/3/MA + 18; Class 5, Step 9.
- Katherine Toynbee, Teacher (#990013), Gold Ridge Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/General Subjects Credential; BA + 58; Class 3, Step 1.
- Jessica Valdes, Teacher (#991597, #202042, #203024), Folsom Middle School, Preliminary Single Subject/Biological Science Credential; BA; Class 2, Step 3.
- Robin Van De Carr, Teacher (#990560), Williamson Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential; BA + 36; Class 2, Step 1.
- Donna Vossler, Teacher (#991619), Sutter Middle School, Professional Clear Multiple Subject/General Subjects/Supplemental English Credential; BA + 60; Class 4, Step 9.
- Lindsay Wilson, Teacher (#990481) (50% Time), Oak Chan Elementary School, Preliminary Multiple Subject/CLAD Credential; BA; Class 2, Step 1.
- Paul Wolter, Teacher (#991738) (80% Time), Kinney High School, Preliminary Single Subject Social Science Credential; BS; Class 2, Step 5.

The following are being rehired with Temporary status for the 2003/2004 school year:

- Joelle Bobrowsky, Speech Pathologist, Psychological Services/Special Education
- Brandi Lungren, Speech Pathologist, Special Education
- Kevin Wheeler, Psychologist (35% Time), Psychological Services

#### CERTIFICATED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Rebecca Bannister, Teacher, Sutter Middle School, 100% Parental. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Barbara Brydon, Teacher, Folsom High School; 20% FCEA Leave of Absence. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Kirstin Endeman, Teacher, Williamson Elementary School, 100% Family Leave. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.

- Randall Fritz, Military Instructor, Mather Youth Academy, 100% Military. Effective: 08/21/03 through 11/04/03.
- Donna Gorbach, Resource Specialist, Empire Oaks Elementary School, 50% Medical. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Jamie Hall, Teacher (50% Time), Gold Ridge Elementary School, 100% Parental. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Bette Hickok, Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School; 100% FCEA Leave of Absence. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Steven Kester, Teacher, Mather Youth Academy; 20% FCEA Leave of Absence. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Denise Mc Kiernan, Teacher, Cordova High School, 100% Family. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Suemi Oxford, Teacher, Rancho Cordova Elementary School, 20% Medical. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Laura Rettinger, Teacher, Sutter Middle School, 100% Personal (50% Contract). Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Laurelle Steele, Teacher, White Rock Elementary School; 100% FCEA Leave of Absence. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.
- Audra Sterrett, Teacher, Cordova Lane Elementary School, 100% Parental. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.

#### CERTIFICATED VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN ASSIGNMENT

- Barbara Brown, Psychologist, Psychological Service. From: 100%; To: 60%. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.

#### CERTIFICATED APPOINTMENT

The following Department Chairpersons/Division Leaders have been appointed to 2-year terms beginning 2003/2004 and continuing through the 2004/2005 school year:

- Janice Gratteau, Department Chairperson (50%), Blanche Sprentz Elementary School
- Suzanne Hooker, Department Chairperson (50%), Blanche Sprentz Elementary School
- Edith Hiatt, Department Chairperson, Cordova Villa Elementary School
- Canen Peterson, Department Chairperson, Gold Ridge Elementary School
- Jeanette Smith, Department Chairperson, Natoma Station Elementary School
- Cindy Burns, Department Chairperson, Oak Chan Elementary School
- Wendy Sol, Department Chairperson, Theodore Judah Elementary School
- Sharon Griffin, Department Chairperson (50%), White Rock Elementary School
- Donald Peterson, Department Chairperson (50%), White Rock Elementary School
- Jennifer Freitas, Division Leader, Sutter Middle School
- Jane Parks, Division Leader, Sutter Middle School

#### RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Michele Myers-Bolton, Teacher, Folsom High School. Michele was hired on August 21, 1996 and has been employed 7 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 06/13/03.

#### CERTIFICATED CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT

- Mary Sechser, Sutter Middle School, from 40% Teacher/60% Teaching Vice Principal to 100% Teacher. Effective: 2003/2004 school year.

### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

STANLEY/MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE the following administrative appointment:  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Kevin Garmston, Vice Principal, Sutter Middle School, effective the 2003-04 school year.

### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

MYERS/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Richard Bogle (*replacement*) Mechanic I (#201483), Transportation Dept., 8 hours daily/12 months, Range TR24/Step B. Effective: 7/21/03.
- Brian Kurtz (*replacement/second position*) Custodian (#991176), Folsom High, 4 hours daily/12 months, Range CL14/Step A. Effective: 7/23/03.
- Susan Lasker (*replacement*) School Clerk-Elementary (#204103), Theodore Judah Elem., 2.5 hours daily/10 months, Range CL12/Step A. Effective: 8/18/03.
- Enna Niko (*replacement*) Administrative Assistant-Secondary (#990960), Mills Middle School, 8 hours daily/11 months, Range CL20/Step A. Effective: 8/4/03.
- Debra Patterson (*replacement*) Custodian (#202651), Theodore Judah Elem., 4 hours daily/12 months, Range 14/Step A. Effective: 7/14/03.
- Cheryl Ramage (*replacement*) Lead Account Clerk (#204100), Accounts Payable Dept., 8 hours daily/12 months, Range CL18/Step B. Effective: 7/28/03.
- Lisa Tevenan (*replacement*) School Clerk-Elementary (#204102), Blanche Sprentz Elem., 2.5 hours daily/10 months, Range CL12/Step A. Effective: 8/18/03.
- Donna Wiese (*replacement/second position*), Preschool Instructional Assistant (#204096), Riverview Elem., 3.5 hours/9.5 months. Effective: 8/25/03.

### CLASSIFIED REASSIGNMENT

- Katherine Aubrey (*replacement*) School Clerk Elementary (#990718), Folsom Hills Elem., from 2 hours daily to 8 hours daily. Effective: 8/18/03.
- Lisa Cleveland (*new position*) SIP Parent/Assistant Coordinator (#204094), from Folsom Hills Elem., 3.9 hours daily to Sandra J. Gallardo Elem., 3.5 hours daily. Effective: 8/25/03.
- Kathy Colivas (*replacement*) from Account Clerk I (#990693), Sutter Middle School, 6 hours daily/10.75 months to Clerk Typist III/Receptionist (#200275), District Office, 8 hours daily/12 months. Effective: 7/21/03.
- Suzanne Ellis (*new position*) School Clerk Elementary (#204021), from Gold Ridge Elem., 3 hours daily to Sandra J. Gallardo Elem., 8 hours daily. Effective: 8/18/03.
- Jose Gutierrez (*replacement*) Custodian (#991175), Custodian, Folsom Hills Elem., from 7 hours daily to 8 hours daily. Effective: 8/11/03.
- Julia Martin (*replacement*) School Clerk Elementary (#990715), Gold Ridge Elem., from 5.5 hours daily to 6 hours daily. Effective: 8/18/03.
- Ann Simmons (*reclassification*) Special Education Dept., from Special Education Inst. Assistant, Range 10 to Special Education Inst. Assistant SH/SED (#990893), Range 11. Effective: 7/1/03.
- Rebecca Molina (*temporary assignment*) Cordova Villa Elem., from School Clerk-Elementary (#990716), 4.5 hours daily, Range CL12/Step E to Administrative Assistant-Elementary, 8 hours daily, Range CL20/Step B. Effective: 8/12/03 through 2/10/03.
- Cheryl Phillips (*temporary reclassification*) Cordova High, from Clerk Typist III, Range CL14/Step E, to Library Assistant (#204502), Range CL20/Step E. Effective: 7/1/03 through 6/30/04.

#### CLASSIFIED UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Jeffrey Ferland, Bus Driver (#991477), Transportation Dept., reason: medical. Effective: 5/1/03 through 6/12/03.
- Cassandra Reynolds, Special Education Inst. Assistant (#202124), reason: parental. Effective: 8/25/03 through 1/2/04.

#### RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Amanda Hughes, Special Education Inst. Assistant (#990813), Cordova High School, reason: relocation. Effective: 6/10/03.
- Nicole Limon, Special Project Coordinator (#203054), Family Support Services, reason: education. Effective: 8/28/03.
- Dmitry Misik, Bilingual Inst. Assistant (#200220), Peter J. Shields Elem., reason: other employment. Effective: 6/26/03.
- Kelly Richardson, Bus Driver (#202650), Transportation Dept., reason: relocation. Effective: 7/11/03.
- Teresa Ritchey, School Clerk-Elementary (#202049), Natoma Station: reason: resignation in lieu of layoff. Effective: 7/14/03.
- Lisa Schiele, SIP Parent/Assistant Coordinator (#990746), White Rock Elem., reason: parental. Effective: 6/12/03.
- Sandra Straka, Health Assistant (#991104), Oak Chan Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 6/13/03.
- Marci Vistro, Career Center Clerk (#990635), Folsom High School, reason: personal. Effective: 6/30/03.

#### TRANSFER TO THE THIRTY-NINE MONTH REEMPLOYMENT LIST

- Zelda Campbell, Custodian (#991167), Cordova Lane/Mills Middle, reason: all paid leave exhausted. Effective: 7/28/03.
- Michael Wilson, Custodian (#991169), Williamson/Kinney High, reason: all paid leave exhausted. Effective: 7/22/03.

#### TERMINATION OF PROBATIONARY STATUS

- Jennifer Groth, Special Education Instructional Assistant (#203126), Sutter Middle. Effective: 6/13/03.

#### CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT

- Marilyn Hamm, Administrative Assistant II (#201361), Maintenance Department. Effective: 10/01/03. Marilyn was hired as a Clerk Typist I at Mitchell Middle School on October 1, 1976. She became a Clerk Typist II at that school in September of 1979. In 1983 she promoted to Student Records Clerk at Mitchell. Marilyn became the Account Clerk I in the Maintenance Department in 1985. That position was reclassified to Staff Secretary in 1989. In October of 1991, Marilyn moved to Folsom High as a Clerk Typist II. She returned to the Maintenance Department as the Administrative Assistant in March of 2000. Marilyn retires with twenty-six years of service to the District.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Rebecca Sloan introduced Leroy Tripette, Education Relations Manager and Flo Robinson, Volunteer Program Coordinator of Intel. President Stanley presented them with a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the board and district for all of their contributions to our school district.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MYERS/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (0304-011)**

- No one came forward.

## **REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS (0304-012)**

Student Advisory Board – No report.

PTA/PTO Council – No report.

California School Employees Association – No report.

Folsom Cordova Education Association – No report.

Folsom Cordova Administrators Association – President Sharon Heilman reported on the following:

- Administrators are preparing for the upcoming year.
- Next week we will be discussing and reviewing, among other things, district goals, student achievement, and the fiscal challenges at the Management Inservice.
- With the able leadership of Mr. Siefkin and our collaboration we will continue to make the district an even better place for students to learn.
- Attended the ACSA Principal Summer Center Institute. Every part of it was fantastic. The speakers were superb, providing invaluable information for school planning efforts. Highly recommend this for other principals.

## **AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS**

MYERS/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **0304-012 – Administrative Matters**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2003

### **0304-013 – Business Matters**

- A. Accept Donations: To acknowledge receipt of donations to the District in the amount of \$127,586.00
- B. Reject Bids: Folsom High School Field House
- C. Approve Contract – Local Area Network Improvements at Riverview Elementary School Using the California Multiple Award Schedule
- D. Approve Contract – Local Area Network Improvements at Oak Chan Elementary School Using the California Multiple Award Schedule
- E. Approve Contract – Local Area Network Improvements at Cordova Villa Elementary School Using the California Multiple Award Schedule
- F. Adopt Resolution No. 08-07-03-01: Approval of 2003-2004 Child Development Contract
- G. Approve Contract – Field Trip Transportation and Maintenance Service for Christian Brothers High School

### **0304-015 – Instructional Matters**

- A. This number not used.
- B. Approve Contract for Non Public School Placement – SE-0304-06

- C. This number not used.
- D. Approve Revision to Board Policy 6143 – Courses of Required Instruction, Courses of Study, Elementary Curriculum
- E. Approve Educational Service Plan – Expelled and High Risk Students

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION**

#### **0304-016 – Approve Appointment of Cordova High School and Folsom High School Team Physicians for 2003-2004**

BENTON/MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE the team physician appointments for the 2003-2004 school year, as listed.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **0304-017 – Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

BENTON/MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2003-2004 school year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **0304-018 – Appoint Folsom Citizens Oversight Committee Replacement Member**

MYERS/BENTON MOVED TO APPROVE the replacement appointment of Dale Borgen to the Folsom Citizens Oversight Committee, as recommended.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **0304-019 – Elementary Instructional Minutes – Early/Late Reading Program**

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Instruction Leslie Faust reviewed the report provided and responded to questions from the board.

Mrs. Myers

- What were the reasons eight elementary sites decided not to offer early/late reading for third grade.

Mrs. Faust

- They take several things into consideration, for example, if most of the students are at grade level, if other interventions are in place, and the success of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade reading programs.
- The schools not offering third grade early/late reading are Carl Sundahl, Natoma Station, Cordova Meadows, White Rock, Cordova Villa, and Blanche Sprentz. Gold Ridge and Oak Chan offer it for just the first part of the year in order to make sure the students are up to grade level before they make the transition to larger fourth grade classes.

Mr. Benton

- Clarified that in the early/late reading program, there are 10 kids the first hour of class, then 20 students until the last hour, which then reverts back to 10.
- Clarified that we need to either eliminate the early/late reading program or make sure everyone is participating in the program in order to comply with equal access.

Mrs. Faust

- The exact same instructional minutes must be offered to every child in the third grade.

Mr. Short

- Why are other districts opting to participate or not participate in the program?

Mrs. Faust

- Some parents who have done quite a bit of research about districts in our area have found that some districts do the same as we do.
- In recent years some districts have eliminated the program because of the transportation costs.
- Elk Grove district recently decided not to participate in an early/late program to allow their year round schedule to have a couple of weeks off in the summer.
- Our school principals are strong advocates of the early/late program in the primary classes.

Mrs. Myers

- Is it possible to apply the model where the first half of the year everyone participates in early/late, then the second half of the year is a full day program?

Mrs. Faust

- Yes, as long as every school in the district is doing the exact same thing.

Mrs. Stanley

- From the instructional perspective, have you recently looked at whether the early/late program is conducive to meeting the state standards and content for reading and language arts?

Mrs. Faust

- Yes. The state board has been very clear on how they want language arts, reading, and writing to be taught and how they want the time committed to these subject areas. Looking at the way they have structured these programs, an early/late program still makes a great deal of sense to us, though probably not a 60-minute session.
- The state's universal access program, which we would call a differentiation approach, fits nicely into an early/late program and the materials are written for approximately 35-40 minutes.

Mrs. Stanley

- Regarding differential learning, do the students know that, for example, if they are below grade level, they are in the first group, or if above grade level then they are in the late group?

Mrs. Faust

- Clarified that schools vary on their approach and cannot classify students' reading level based on whether they are in the early or late reading class.

Mrs. Stanley

- Are we able to adequately utilize alternative interventions as other districts have?

Mrs. Faust

- We will have challenges due to funding cuts.
- Confident the schools will have strong interventions in place for students who are not at grade level.

Mrs. Stanley

- With the threat of loss of state funding for different interventions possible, we need to keep in mind that we may need to use the mechanisms in place if funding is lost.

Richard Hunter

- Not against the early/late reading program. Want at least the minimum number of minutes

required by law for all 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, which is 50,400 minutes or 280 minutes per day.

- Using the current bell schedule, Folsom Cordova Unified School District would have to lengthen the school year by five weeks just to reach the state minimum.
- Believe the district is implementing the early/late program because the educational professionals truly believe this is what is best for children.
- As a school psychologist, I'm not suggesting that small groups are a bad idea.
- The law explicitly states that districts can count instructional minutes in a manner consistent with FCUSD's current practice. Believe the law is unfair to students and is currently fighting for legislative changes.
- Schools should not be able to count minutes of instruction when children are not in the classroom.
- Things are different in education than they were 20 years ago. No Child Left Behind, Class Size Reduction, high stakes testing, Promotion and Retention, Benchmarks, and Standards have huge implications now.
- Currently FCUSD is last in instructional minutes compared to 20 other local school districts, including those with early/late programs.
- Several school districts offer 10,000 more minutes, which is seven weeks more instructional time.
- Elverta's kindergarten students go to school longer than most of our third graders.
- Last year the district scheduled ten minimum days and three super minimum days. The district defines a minimum day as 240 minutes of instruction. Currently students in first through third grade receive 246 minutes of instruction.
- Proposed the board become wed to the idea that all children in Folsom and Rancho Cordova should at least receive the minimum number of minutes required by law.

Mrs. Stanley

- In your research, did you ever look into where the state came up with their numbers?

Richard Hunter

- No, believes it is an arbitrary number.

Heidi Hunter

- Goal is to ensure all students in the district receive the minimum minutes of instruction required by law. To offer less, is a disservice to our children.
- Believe all third graders should be allowed to attend school for the full day.
- In regards to first and second grades, we are not opposed to early/late schedules if the district feels that small group instruction is beneficial. However, the children should still receive academic instruction for the minimum minutes required by the State of California.
- Understands that this means the district must review the current bell schedule and negotiate with the teachers union, but believes the school board needs to set the tone to offer all children the minimum minutes.
- Offered three options for board consideration.
- Hope you share the confidence we have in the teachers that you employ that they will continue to offer quality instruction even if required to instruct for the minimum minutes required by law. Throughout California the vast majority of teachers are teaching at least the minimum minutes to children who are learning and achieving throughout the whole instructional day. Shouldn't children in the Folsom Cordova Unified School District receive the same opportunity?

Kimberlie Davis

- Our students deserve the entire amount of instructional minutes required by law. Agree some

students benefit greatly from a smaller student/teacher ratio during their reading instruction, however, this can be accomplished without taking away instructional minutes.

- There are several teachers at each of the first to third grade levels. The students' reading abilities could be assessed as usual at the onset of the school year. The students at the entire grade level could then be grouped by ability and assigned to a teacher for their reading instruction. The student/teacher ratio could be smaller for the at risk readers and larger for the advanced readers. In this way we could absolve the concerns of parents and continue with Folsom Cordova Unified School District's high reading test scores.

Bruce Magnani

- Reiterated what Richard Hunter said. Early/late is an important program and encourage the district to continue to implement, but would like to see it done by providing the minimum number of instructional minutes as required by law.

Michele Zumwalt

- Thanked the board and district staff for their individual time spent considering this issue.
- Concerned about the short days in grades 1-3. Especially the issue of missed curriculum. Involved in daughter's class and is aware of the extent to which important curriculum is not being covered.
- Shared the following personal example of skipped curriculum: her daughter just finished first grade. She had a wonderful teacher, perhaps one of our district's best. Also had two student teachers and countless volunteer parents in the classroom. With a lot of support, the teachers could not cover the entire math workbook because she simply didn't have enough time to cover it all. This is not the fault of the teacher, but rather missed curriculum is a consequence of our district's limited instructional time.
- The regular school day for grades 1-3 is only six minutes more than a minimum day.
- Another completely shocking fact is that we can't find any school district anywhere offering less actual instructional time in grades 1-3 than Folsom Cordova Unified School District.
- Believes if we add more quantity time in the classroom, we would see more improvement in our API scores. Concerned that independent groups generally rate the majority of our schools in Folsom and Rancho Cordova as below average or well below average when compared to other similar like schools. Believe we have an opportunity to improve.
- The district is reporting instructional minutes for all children grades 1-3 from 8:25 to 2:37. They are counting instructional minutes when children are not even present. Current state law allows us to count minutes in this fashion, but does not require us to do so.
- Hopes the school board decides to end early/late all together. There is no statistical data that supports the effectiveness of early/late reading in our district.

Mrs. Stanley

- Did you say there was statistical data supporting adding more minutes to a day?

Michelle Zumwalt

- There is research indicating that lengthening the day with quality instruction certainly improves student achievement.

Mrs. Stanley

- There is no statistical data in our district supporting either one (early/late or adding minutes).

Kristin Schaal

- The district needs to count the minutes the student are actually at school in order to have accurate data.
- If the district feels that early/late is an advantage to the children, then keep it. However, have them start 34 minutes earlier and have the day go 34 minutes longer as other districts do.

Cathy Reiss

- Daughter was part of the early/late reading program last year. Volunteered in the class several times and noticed in the afternoon when the early readers were leaving several teachers would march the entire class out to wait for the parents picking up the early readers. Then the late readers would march back in to have their reading session. This would take 20 minutes, so they only received 40 minutes of extra time with their teacher in the afternoon.

Mechelle Gooch

- Pro early/late as long as we get our minutes.
- Concerned that children who are below grade level standard receive the opportunity for the full instructional minutes and perhaps the higher-level readers never get the opportunity for 10:1.

Jacquie Demontel

- Doesn't believe there is really 60 minutes of instructional time whether the student is an early or late reader.
- The teachers have the ability to decide what they are going to do with the time.

Barbara Fisher

- Feels strongly that if we have a required number of instructional minutes, then the students should have them.
- There is an issue of late readers leaving the classroom for a break when the early readers leave. They are not receiving the full amount of instructional time.
- Has been informed about concerns of a standardized program because of socio-economic children and lower levels might have more problems if they don't have the smaller group instruction. Feels they are at a disadvantage regardless because of the missed curriculum.
- The math curriculum was not covered in child's class as well because there was no time.
- Believes the early/late should definitely be discontinued in third grade. To have third graders jump from a short to long day, larger class size, and a huge change in curriculum all at the same time is really hard.

Mr. Benton

- A lot of speakers ask the district to meet the minimum amount of minutes required by law. Are we doing that now?

Mrs. Faust

- We are not out of compliance with the Education Code by counting the early/late minutes the way we do.
- We are able to count all 306 instructional minutes where as any one child is probably attending 246 minutes. The Education Code allows us to do this. We are not doing anything illegal. But we are not providing 280 minutes for each child.

Mrs. Myers

- There are serious allegations of robbing our students of instructional minutes.

- What are the implications for our district if we adopted the Elk Grove bell schedule and lengthen our school day?
- Review suggestions from the Hunter family and the implications for our district.
- What data do we have to evaluate how serious the missed curriculum issue is?
- How do our test scores weigh in? We are classified as a successful school district.
- Address issue of students moving in and out of schools and missing curriculum.
- Would like to hear from principals and our teachers. We've already heard from parents who have raised valid points, especially on the topic of consistency across our schools and the grouping of like students.
- The impression is that there is not a lot of management of this grouping in the early/late program. The principals need to be held accountable.
- Early/late is a good concept, but if the implementation has fallen short it needs to be addressed.

Mr. Shaw

- Thanked all the speakers. They've done their homework and came prepared.
- As a district we are currently doing very well in reading. When we look at why, it is partially due to our early/late reading program. My intuitive sense tells me that 1:10 is more effective than 1:20. Research shows that to be truly effective the number needs to be below 15 to be personal. Would hate to see it go away.
- The issues raised by parents tonight are equal access and instructional minutes.
- How do children learn best? Research tells us and we need to look at this when we make important decisions. People's opinions vary greatly and are not a good basis for making decisions.
- Test scores shouldn't be used as a factor because there is a tremendous amount of diversity from school to school within the district.
- The method of counting minutes is one that was established by the state. When your students get to secondary school, you'll find out that passing time is considered instructional minutes.
- Equal access is important and we need to comply with the law. We need to do the same thing in every school. Personally feel the needs of children in every school are different.
- Teachers and administrators work with different populations and they are good judges. Need to poll our principals and teachers and talk about the most effective way to do this. The 60-minute time period is long for first and second graders and effectiveness may drop off at 35 minutes. However, there is transitional time, such as start up time and break down time. A 45 minute block might be more effective than a 60 minute block. This would be a 30-minute gain in instructional time.
- Received a lot of feedback and about 50% is pro and about 50% is con on this issue. Every speaker tonight had the same message, but has heard the opposite point of view as well.
- If we make a decision to have early/late only during the first semester of the year for third grade, then transitioning to a full day, would caution that in some schools we might need targeted intervention to take up the gap. Can't just abandon those that can't read because of the equality. Need a safety net built in.
- How can we make the reading groups more homogeneous? Most schools have dealt with this and have some great ideas. Would like to hear from the principals.

Mr. Short

- Thanked everyone for speaking tonight.
- Heard the problems - missed curriculum, even with extra help it is not working, counting minutes in classroom and the kids are not even there, picking up the kids from the early session which cuts

the late readers' time, disadvantage to lower socio-economic students, and transitional issues in students going from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. All valid issues we need to look at.

- Early/late program seems like a good program, but we do not have statistics or research to validate which vehicle is best.
- Matrix put together by the Hunters shows a good comparison. Shows other schools doing the early/late program and others not. Elk Grove is phasing it out.
- Need to explore this issue more and hear solutions from teachers and principals.

Mrs. Stanley

- Details have been presented on whether we are meeting the legal requirements on the number of instructional minutes.
- Negotiations with teachers would only be an issue if we extend beyond 306 minutes.
- Asked for an analysis of the 26-minute slip session. Any feasibility, especially due to transitions?
- An alternative could be to decrease vacation days and/or add school days.
- Concerned with missed curriculum, but believes it is an issue of implementation of the program.
- Regarding transition times and teachers not using that time accurately, if we continue the early/late reading program we should have a board policy on how the program will be used in order to have district wide implementation.
- Clarified the similar schools ranking discussed early. Our API scores are well above state average. They are higher than some of the districts that have longer instructional days.
- Need to have analysis on the research that is out there. We do not have any statistical data within our district that shows that one way or another is any better.
- As a board we can't look at an individual child, we have to consider all 18,000 kids in the district.
- Need to look at the importance of early intervention for those who are not succeeding and/or meeting standards.
- Regarding small group instruction versus quantity of minutes, we have studied that issue before. The benefits are more than anecdotal.
- The concern raised about not differentiating as much as we say we are, may be partially true. Transportation has always been an issue and parents request certain schedules because of day care. Even if it is true that there is less differentiation in the small group reading instructional program, are the kids still getting a benefit?
- Thanked parents for speaking. We are receiving other communications that promote maintenance of the early/late program vs. longer school days. They appreciate the shorter days.
- Our next board meeting is August 21 and our school starts August 25. If we make any decision to make a change on August 21, how can we implement the transition?

Mrs. Faust

- The equal access issue can be accomplished if we make a decision at the next board meeting.
- August 21 is not a good timeline on the other items the board has requested research on.
- Further discussion and investigations into the instructional minutes questions will take us beyond August 21.

Mrs. Stanley

- Recommend we deal with the equal access issue at the next meeting, and address the other items after research is complete.

Mrs. Myers

- Asked staff to address the third to fourth grade transition issue.

Mr. Benton

- Inquired if the equal access compliance for all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders could be made on August 21?

Mrs. Stanley

- The main issue that will be addressed at the August 21 board meeting is providing equal access to all students. We are out of compliance in the third grade and need to address it before school starts.
- We'll determine how long it will take to research the other issues and bring back for further discussion.

## **REPORTS**

### **0304-020 – Reports to the Board of Education**

A. Superintendent Siefkin reported on the following:

- Pleased we finally have a state budget. Some misinformation on the part of the media when they said education did not get hurt. We will still be required to make the \$6.5 million in budget reductions.
- Participating in discussions with Elk Grove USD Superintendent Dave Gordon regarding recent communications with the City of Rancho Cordova on the SunRidge property. They will formally respond to the Rancho Cordova City Council.
- We will have several opportunities with the media to participate in back to school articles.
- We are a week from meeting with the Management Team and less than a month away from the beginning of school. Will have a challenging year. Hope we haven't made our cuts so far below the line of being lean and mean that we have reduced our efficiency and effectiveness in delivering service to students. It is an alarming thought when we try to determine whether or not we will be able to deliver all the expectations to all of the groups we represent, realizing that we have reduced our expenditures by more than \$13 million since 2000.
- Confident in staff, the big job will be delivery, but how completely will be a real test.
- Invited Board to Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce, Food and Wine Festival, next Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Nimbus Winery.
- More information on test scores will be provided at the August 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting.

B. Correspondence to the Board

C. District Committees

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **0304-021 – Board Business**

A. Board Communication

#### **Ed Short**

- Thanked tonight's speakers.
- Sacramento County School Board Association met and talked about the budget. We are taking a hit, \$100/ADA cut. Mentioned there may be potential to shift money around for classroom materials. Encouraged trustees to attend the annual dinner coming up in October.

#### **Richard Shaw**

- Impressed with the amount of money we have collected in donations, i.e., Intel. Provides good community support for our schools.
- Commended Mrs. Stanley for her Telegraph article on early/late program.

- Vlade Divac camp was held at Folsom High School. Superintendent Siefkin and Steve Miklos are major supporters of this. It is gaining national renown as a tremendous basketball experience for young people.
- Congratulated Daniel Brown from Sutter Middle School who saved a 5-year-old kid from drowning. Credits his training to his Sutter Middle School health class.
- Condolences to Carol Orr's family.
- Intel's Jason Project is a great science project for kids. Thanked Intel.

#### Sara Myers

- Congratulations to Marilyn Hamm on her retirement.
- Condolences to Carol Orr's family.
- Congratulations to Kevin Garmston, our new vice principal.
- Speedy recovery to Al Schieder's son who was injured in Iraq, and to Eddi Rains, principal at Carl Sundahl who has been hospitalized recently.
- Thanked Intel for their splendid cooperation and partnership with our schools.
- Commended City Council of Rancho Cordova for the fine letter sent to Elk Grove. They made a very persuasive case for the inclusion of the SunRidge project within the FCUSD. It remains to be seen how Elk Grove district will respond. It was an excellent letter.
- Mr. Short mentioned funds for textbooks. Believe this was probably an idea that was viable before Cruz Bustamante said that he was going to jump into the Governor race.
- Board President laid out the issues very well in her recent letter on the Early/Late Program.
- Interesting that the speakers tonight have all been on one side of the issue because there have been others in support of retaining the Early/Late Program. It is a very complex issue. Looking forward to staff's response.

#### Roger Benton

- Condolences to Carol Orr's family.
- The Vlade Divac basketball camp was great. Appreciates Mr. Miklos and Superintendent Siefkin. Good for kids.
- Thanked Rancho Cordova City Council for the great letter to Elk Grove.
- Thanked Mrs. Nunes and her fine group for the Board Policy update.
- Wish the Board President well on her triathlon this weekend.
- Costco Backpack event will be here shortly. It is unbelievable what they do for us.

#### Teresa Stanley

- Expressed condolences to the Carol Orr family.
- Attended Joint Coordination Meeting with the City of Folsom. A very positive meeting. Mentioned the number of kids at the Vlade Camp nearly doubled from the prior year – over 800 attendees. Mayor Miklos extended a special thanks to the two custodians that worked during the camp.
- The next school we build will need upgrades for the gymnasium – the next city contribution will be at least \$250,000.
- The Folsom City Council has not yet approved the updated joint use agreement.
- Still discussions on a joint use library at the new high school. City committed to working with us on the adjacent property to the current high school to make sure that we wouldn't have any city obstacles to selling the property.
- Suggestion to use the City's lighting money to light the high school's football field.
- The City is upgrading the crosswalk at Persifer and Riley to make it a safer crossing for kids.

- Reiterated that Mrs. Bettencourt has asked the Board for names for a naming committee to name schools, buildings and facilities. Please provide nominees in a timely manner.
- Mervyn's provided grants to Folsom Cordova students.
- Regarding the early/late issue, know of at least one person who was intimidated by the passion shared by the group who spoke tonight and didn't want to come and oppose them. Most of the people who came and spoke live on the same street and/or same neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**INFORMATION**

**0304-022 – Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Folsom**

**0304-023** – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2003 at Mills Middle School, 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670.

Record of meeting schedule for August 7, 2003:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:10 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	8:20 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Norman R. Siefkin, Executive Secretary to the Board

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Sara Myers, Clerk of the Board