

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

March 4, 2004

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

March 4, 2004

Board members present: Roger Benton, Sara Myers, Teresa Stanley, Richard Shaw, and Edward Short. Student Board Member Stephanie Shaffer was present.

5:00 p.m. – Open Session CALL TO ORDER (Held in Library)
President Benton 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 6:15 p.m. President Benton called the meeting to order. Eric Hoang, Cordova High School student body president, led the flag salute.

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

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE routine certificated personnel items.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (STANLEY ABSENT).

CERTIFICATED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Amy Burger (*revised*), Special Education Teacher, Sutter Middle School, from 12/12/03 through 06/11/04; to 03/01/04 through 06/11/04.
- Kathleen White (*revised*), Counselor, Cordova High School; 100% Parental Leave of Absence, from 12/04/03 through 02/29/04; to 12/04/03 through 03/31/04.

CERTIFICATED EMPLOYMENT

- Stacey Brinkley, Special Education Teacher (#200246), Theodore Judah Elementary School, Emergency Specialist Mild/Moderate Credential; BA + 26, Class 2, Step 1. Effective: 02/17/04.
- Linda Calfee (*revised*), Teacher, Cordova Gardens Elementary School. Effective: From 02/23/04 to 02/17/04.

- Heidi Nelson, Special Education Teacher (60% Time), Mather Heights Elementary School, Preliminary Level 1 Education Specialist Instruction Visual Impairments Credential; BA+ 41/MA + 53 2/3; Class 5, Step 1. Effective: 03/01/04.
- Denise Whitelaw, Special Education Teacher (#203001), Sutter Middle School, Emergency Education Specialist Moderate/Severe Credential; BA; Class 1, Step 1. Effective: 01/22/04.

CERTIFICATED VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN ASSIGNMENT

- April Hackert (*revised*), Teacher, Natoma Station Elementary School. From 40% to 60%. Effective: 01/24/04.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

MYERS/SHAW MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (STANLEY ABSENT).

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Emily Allen (replacement) Student Care Assistant (#991309), Peter J. Shields Elem., 3.5 hours daily/9.75 months, Range CL08/Step A. Effective: 3/1/04.
- Alysia Blanford (replacement) Student Care Assistant (#203313), Williamson Elem., 3.5 hours daily/9.75 months, Range CL08/Step A. Effective: 3/1/04.
- Laura Daniels (replacement) Relief Bus Driver (#991495), Transportation Dept., 4 hours daily/9.5 months, Range TR16/Step B. Effective: 2/13/04.
- Lydia Gutierrez (replacement) Food Service Worker I (#200517), Folsom High, 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL05/Step A. Effective: 2/9/04.
- Carolyn Heinz (replacement) Student Care Assistant (#202507), Empire Oaks Elem., 3.5 hours daily/9.75 months, Range CL08/Step A. Effective: 3/1/04.
- Juliana Hraczky (replacement) Food Service Worker I (#204561), Folsom High, 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL05/Step A. Effective: 2/9/04.
- Laura Schroeder (replacement) Student Care Assistant (#203181), Blanche Sprentz Elem., 2.5 hours daily/9.75 months. Effective: 3/1/04.

CLASSIFIED REASSIGNMENT

- Kathleen Leveille (replacement) from Health Assistant (#991095), Folsom Middle, 9.5 months, Range 11/Step E to School Clerk-Elementary (#990716), Cordova Villa Elem., 10 months, Range CL12/Step E. Effective: 3/1/04.
- Shilo Dunham (replacement) Transportation Dept., from Relief Bus Driver, 4 hours daily to Regular Bus Driver (#991474), 5.75 hours daily. Effective: 2/12/04.
- Terri Smith (replacement) Transportation Dept., from Relief Bus Driver, 4 hours daily to Regular Bus Driver (202532), 5.75 hours daily. Effective: 2/12/04.

CLASSIFIED UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Aurica Kirkwood, Bilingual Instructional Assistant (#991546), Rancho Cordova Elem., reason: temporary teaching contract. Effective: 1/14/04 to 6/10/04.

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Sylvia Gamez, Special Education Instructional Assistant (#203308), Natoma Station Elem., Reason: personal. Effective: 2/20/04.
- Rashmi Sonal, IASA Instructional Assistant (#990787), Williamson Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 2/27/04.

CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT

- Suzanne Linley, Administrative Secretary (#990652), Elementary Education Department. Effective: 3/31/04. Suzanne came to work for the District on November 28, 1988. She was the Staff Secretary III for the Curriculum Department. She was reclassified to Administrative Secretary, Elementary Education, in February of 1997. Suzanne will retire with fifteen years of service to Folsom Cordova.

CERTIFICATED RELEASE/REASSIGNMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT the following Release/Reassignment of Administrator for the 2004-2005 School Year:

Resolution No. 03-04-04-30 – Jon Maloney, District Department Chair for Elementary Prep and Music

Resolution No. 03-04-04-31 – Mary Ann Delleney, District Department Chair for Health Services
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Olga Project – Folsom High School Rotary

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Instruction Janie DeArcos introduced Jean Cavanaugh. Ms. Cavanaugh, a Folsom High School Teacher, introduced Alina Trach who is President of the Folsom High School Rotary Interact Group. Alina spoke to the board regarding their “Have a Heart” fundraising project. This project is to bring Olga Nikolayevna Yachnaya, a Russian orphan, to Sacramento for treatment at the Shriners Hospital. Olga was badly burned in a fire and requires treatment for her scars and physical disabilities. Checks can be made payable to the Firefighters Burn Institute.

Second High School in Folsom

Deputy Superintendent Debbie Bettencourt introduced Rainforth Grau architects Jeff Grau, Teri Jamison and Tim DeWitt who presented information/plans for the second Folsom High School.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (0304-210)

- Francine Lundmark, Folsom resident, expressed her concern regarding students who speed on Sibley.
- Jana Morris, FMS teacher, addressed the board regarding exploratory offerings in middle school. Urged the board to ask the teachers what they are willing to do to help before making any program cuts that directly affect the students.
- Lori Emmington, FHS teacher, expressed her support for visual and performing arts at the middle school level.
- Marianne Dana, FMS teacher, expressed her support for visual and performing arts at the middle school level. Read letters from students expressing their feelings about art and the possibility of its elimination.
- Mindy Andrus-Gerger, Mills Middle School teacher, expressed her support for visual and performing arts at the middle school level. Read letter from student indicating what art means to her.
- Patricia Jones, FHS student, addressed the board regarding the possibility of budget cuts affecting middle schools.

- Cindy Evans, CHS counselor, addressed the board regarding how students are benefiting from counseling services at all our secondary schools.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS (0304-211)

Student Advisory Board – Stephanie Shaffer reported on the following:

- Attendance campaign will be on the March agenda. Simple fact sheets will be provided to all sites.
- Next meeting is March 24th at Mitchell Middle School.

PTA/PTO Council – No report.

California School Employees Association – Daryl Abdo reported on the following:

- Disheartened by the comments made by the Board to individuals at the last meeting regarding bargaining unions. Felt the Board was trying to sell to the public that the unions or associations are the reason we are in the condition we are in.
- There was no mention of the costs of workers' compensation, health, and fuel for transportation.
- The Folsom Music Boosters complained about paying costs for transportation. When I was involved in music boosters when my children were young, we had fundraisers to get our kids to their competitions.
- Don't understand where the music boosters are coming from. We are cutting transportation for high school students. How are the kids going to get to school?
- Received about 12 calls from custodial staff and six faxes of the memo sent out about being closed for the month of July.
- July is when we do our deep cleaning. When are we supposed to clean the schools in preparation for the kids?
- Budget cuts are hard on everyone. Urged the Board to communicate before making budget reductions.

Folsom Cordova Education Association – No report.

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

- Leadership matters. This week has been declared the week of the school administrator. In our district we have 78 administrators with over 800 years of experience. We are passionate lifelong learners who believe in the value of quality public education where student success is not only expected, but also achieved in our district. We love our profession, celebrate student success, salute our teachers who provide quality instruction, and do our best to keep spirits up during these difficult budget times when very tough decisions must be made. This week is a good time to reflect on the important work that we have the privilege of doing each day – providing the education for our most important resource - our children.

AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS

MYERS/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items with the exception of the following items:

0304-214 D – Approve Elementary and Secondary Summer School Curriculum, Locations, Dates, and Times

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-212 – Administrative Matters

A. Regular Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2004

0304-213 – Business Matters

- A. Accept Donations: To acknowledge receipt of donations to the district.
- B. Approve Notice of Completion- Local-Area Network Improvements at Cordova Villa Elementary School Using CMAS
- C. Approve Piggyback Bid – Gary Doupnik Manufacturing, Inc. – Williamson Elementary School Band Room
- D. Approve Piggyback Bid – Gary Doupnik Manufacturing, Inc. – Cordova High School Classrooms
- E. Approve Piggyback Bid – Gary Doupnik Manufacturing, Inc. – Cordova High School Temporary Classrooms
- F. Approve Piggyback Bid – Gary Doupnik Manufacturing, Inc. – Folsom High School Classrooms
- G. Accept Independent Auditor’s Report – Measures B and C
- H. Accept County Treasurer’s Report – Quarter Ended December 31, 2003
- I. Award Replacement Bid – Community Education Center Modernization Painting Trade Package

0304-214 – Instructional Matters

- A. Expulsion Panel Recommendations:

Case Numbers: 0304-48, 0304-54, and 0304-55

0304-48 – Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy or any state-authorized educational program outside of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District; student must complete at least one successful semester or summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District; if student successfully completes one semester or summer school at the Mather Youth Academy, she may attend Kinney High School during the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year and her order will be changed to a suspended expulsion; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills and substance abuse; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive programs of the district.

0304-54 – Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year; place at the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year; student is to attend summer session at the Mather Youth Academy following the 3rd trimester of the 2003-2004 academic year; student is to successfully complete the remainder of the 2003-2004 academic year, summer session, and the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year at the Mather Youth Academy in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program in Folsom Cordova Unified School District; individual student counseling to address substance abuse, gang affiliation, and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive programs of the district.

0304-55 – Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year; place at the Sacramento County Community School or any state-authorized educational program outside of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District; upon reinstatement into the district, student must attend the Mather Youth Academy (as a S.A.R.B. placement) and complete at least one successful semester in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District; individual student counseling to address substance abuse and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive programs of the district.

- B. Approve Contracts for Non Public School Placement – SE-0304-69, SE-0304-70, and SE-0304-71
- C. Approve Contracts for Therapy Services – SE-0304-72, SE-0304-73 and SE-0304-74
- D. Approve Elementary and Secondary Summer School Curriculum, Locations, Dates, and Times
- E. Approve Extended Educational Field Trip Request – Susan Woodman’s Special Education Class to Bear River Retreat, Grass Valley, California
- F. Approve Extended Educational Field Trip Request – Cordova High School to Future Homemakers of America (FHA) State Meeting in Fresno, CA

0304-214 D – Approve Elementary and Secondary Summer School Curriculum, Locations, Dates, and Times

MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE the Elementary and Secondary Summer School Curriculum, Locations, Dates, and Times and eliminate Drivers Ed and Family Life.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

STANLEY/BENTON MOVED to approve the Elementary and Secondary Summer School Curriculum, Locations, Dates, and Times. Requested that staff seek alternative opportunities for students who want to take P.E.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0304-215 – Approve Bi-Annual Developer Fee Justification Study

STANLEY/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE the Bi-Annual Developer Fee Justification Study, which demonstrates the nexus between new development in the district and the need to assess fees to finance new school construction and reconstruction.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC HEARING

0304-216 – Authorization of the Statutory School Facilities Fees per Government Code Section 65995 and Education Code Section 17620

President Benton opened the hearing at 7:36 p.m. No one came forward. Hearing was closed at 7:37 p.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0304-217 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-04-04-25 – Increase the Statutory School Facility Fees per Government Code Section 65995

SHAW/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-04-04-25 to Increase the Statutory School Facility Fees per Government Code Section 65995.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-218 – Adopt Urgency Resolution No. 03-04-04-26 – Immediately Implement the Statutory School Facility Fees per Education Code Section 17620

STANLEY/MYERS MOVED TO ADOPT Urgency Resolution No. 03-04-04-26 to immediately implement the Statutory School Facility Fee per Education Code Section 17620.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-219 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-04-04-27 – Specifications of the Board Election Order

BENTON/STANLEY MOVED to Adopt Resolution No. 03-04-04-27 – Specifications of the Election Order and Consolidation with the November 2, 2004 General Election.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-220 – Approve 2003-2004 Second Interim Financial Report, and General Fund and Other Fund Budget Revisions

MYERS/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE the 2003-2004 Second Interim Report, and General Fund and Other Fund Budget Revisions certifying that Folsom Cordova Unified School District will be able to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the 2003-2004 fiscal year and two subsequent years.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-221 – 2004-2005 Budget Development and Reductions

Superintendent Siefkin explained the challenges of reducing our expenditures by \$3,459,000 for the 2004-2005 school year. Asked the Board to approve this list of proposed budget reductions. Every item directly affects the students. This is not a final amount. We may have reduced expenditures or increased revenues.

Mrs. Stanley

- Regarding eliminating district support for clubs, the proposed reduction is less than previously noted. What is the plan?

Mr. Siefkin

- There was a different amount listed previously due to misreading music stipends and including them by mistake.

Mrs. Stanley

- Does each club get a certain amount or does each site get a certain amount to determine how to use?

Mrs. Faust

- At the elementary level, there is an amount for each site. It is only enough to do one major and one minor club. The major club is always the student council.

Mrs. DeArcos

- At the secondary level, there is an amount for each site. The schools designate the clubs.

Mrs. Stanley

- How is the music program going to be affected by an 8-10% reduction? Is it across the board or are we intending to eliminate from a specific grade?

Mr. Siefkin

- Will work with Jon Maloney and Music Boosters to determine areas that can be reduced.

Mrs. Stanley

- 50% of school districts statewide have no nurses. How can we support reducing nursing staff by one when we have approximately eight?

Mr. Siefkin

- Feel it is important for us to have healthy students. Our nurses play a valuable role and support our classroom instructors as well as assisting us in maintaining levels of ADA. This is a 12.5% reduction in nursing services. Nurses are covering more schools and students.

Mrs. Stanley

- You indicated you have identified some proposed reductions in excess of what we may need and we may have unexpected increases in our general fund in one manner or another. Isn't there some uncertainty in this list that we will be able to actually make all of the proposed cuts even if we decide we have to do them all? (Such as reducing the non public school placements.)

Mr. Siefkin

- The effects on the students will be very painful. The areas I would be first concerned about filling

are item 4, teacher staffing, and item 19, secondary school administrators. For example, we need to provide reading assistance to students struggling or newcomer classes if we receive a large group of newcomer students in the district. Also concerned with further reducing administrators at the secondary schools. We are currently below state guidelines. Student enrollment has increased and administrative personnel has not. Concerned further cuts can have a direct impact on the safety of students.

Mrs. Stanley

- Student care administrator was on prior list, but is not on this list.

Mr. Siefkin

- It was a single item, now it has been rolled into item 14, district administration/clerical support.

Ms. Shaffer

- Concerned about reducing transportation for 9-12. Need to make a compromise for areas such as Mather and American River. This may cause a decrease in ADA.

Mr. Siefkin

- Your recommendation is duly noted.

Mr. Short

- Need to look at partnerships in the community and other revenue streams for items such as middle school sports program. Has there been any dialogue with the Parks and Recreation departments?

Mr. Siefkin

- There has been some preliminary dialogue suggesting additional partnerships.
- Parks and Recreation may be facing fiscal restrictions as well. May need to have collaboration of several support groups.

Mr. Benton

- We are not necessarily saying all clubs will be eliminated, but that the general fund support for clubs will be eliminated.

Mr. Siefkin

- That's correct. We have contract language with our employee group that indicates a club sponsor will be compensated at a certain amount. We can't ask someone to serve voluntarily under the same conditions.
- So many clubs will go away unless another funding source is identified.

Mrs. Myers

- Can a club continue on with an adult advisor, either in a volunteer capacity or funded elsewhere, and does it have to be one of our employees?

Mrs. Nunes

- We would offer it to our employees first because it is a contractual position. If no one on staff is interested we offer it outside of staff. Generally we are able to find faculty members to provide the service. We are unable to offer the position without pay.
- We would be unable to offer the club.

Mrs. Myers

- Could we negotiate to have an adult volunteer?

Mrs. Stanley

- Because it is a contractual issue, we may open up negotiations with the union.

Mr. Shaw

- There are a few clubs that operate with support of outside organizations such as the Key Club sponsored by Kiwanis.
- Clubs are always involved in raising and spending money. We are only talking about reducing the money that pays the stipend for the advisor. I think there is community support that can help.

Stan Seiler, district custodian

- Concerned about the closing of schools in July.

Anna Schardt, PTA president at Sutter Middle School

- Concerned about the possible reduction of library clerks and other cuts to middle schools.

Jean Schumpelt, FMS teacher

- Proposed that we have more information from the teacher's standpoint. Teachers are frustrated and they feel they have good ideas and can save jobs. They feel unempowered because they are not part of the decision process. Would like to work together.

Steve Hanson, Carl Sundahl custodian

- Spoke on behalf of custodians and the closing of schools in July.

Diana Criddle, CSEA labor relations representative

- Concerned about classified employees taking further cuts.
- Reminded Board that any reduction of the school year for classified employees is a mandatory negotiable item. Would like to provide input in this process.

Gary Richardson, CSEA transportation vice president

- Concerned about the elimination of high school transportation.

Derek Dozier, student

- Expressed concern about a possible cut to music programs, theater department, and clubs.

Caryl Myers, CHS staff

- Spoke on behalf of division leaders, athletic directors, and clubs (extra curricular activities).

Stacey Preach, FHS & CHS art teacher

- Spoke in support of arts education.

Michael Witt, parent & FHS freshman boys basketball coach

- Spoke on behalf of the sports programs at the middle schools. Before you eliminate the support for sports activities, ask parents if they would be willing to fund the programs.

Conrade Mayer, parent

- Partnerships are not being fully developed.

- Transfer cell phone tower funds back into the general fund.

Mrs. Bettencourt

- We receive about \$1,200 a month from each cell phone company that rents space on the towers both at Cordova High (1 currently) and Folsom High (4), for about \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year. Folsom High School did receive a \$150,000 one-time payment from one company that has been set aside for future replacement of the turf as per adopted board resolution.

Mindy Andrus-Gerger, Mills Middle School teacher

- Spoke on behalf of Laura Clawson, student, who collected 370+ signatures from students at the middle school in support of not eliminating middle school electives.

Julie Rinaldi, parent

- Spoke on behalf of transportation, summer school offerings, and electives.
- Support from community partners needed.

Liane Sousa, parent

- Concerned about print shop costs and closing schools in July. How are we going to be ready by August 16th? Urged Board to keep class size reduction in 3rd grade.

Cathy Reiss

- Concerned about losing 3rd grade class size reduction. Proposed no raises to those who are making over \$50,000 a year – doesn't think teachers and custodians would apply.
- Parents are willing to pay for programs, just ask. Don't cut the programs.

Becki Clemmer, Cordova Lane Elementary teacher

- Referred to State Superintendent Jack O'Connell's statement on class size reduction in the District's *Expressions* newsletter. Suggested using community partnership grant money (i.e. Intel volunteer grant of \$113,000) to save 3rd grade class size reduction.
- In the plans for the new high school, which will cost \$54 million, is there not something that can be scaled down? I would be willing to take a pay cut to save class size reduction.
- Would like to meet in an informal forum to suggest ideas.

Francine Lundmark, parent

- Concerned about transportation for high school students.
- Thanked Oak Chan PTO president, JoAnne Reinking, for sharing information about tonight's meeting. We need to save class size reduction.

Rodney Robinson, parent

- Supports class size reduction.
- Having the new high school presentation on the same night as the budget cuts was disrespectful.

Lisa Mort, parent

- Urged Board to save class size reduction or possibly lower the number to 22 instead of 32.

JoAnne Reinking

- Thanked everyone who came tonight in support of class size reduction. Read a petition from Oak Chan parents supporting class size reduction.
- Questioned the amount of reduction for the after school care administrator.

- Does the \$54,000 in print shop reductions come out of instructional materials?
- Doesn't understand the reducing of principals at the elementary schools. Is it one principal at two sites?
- Teachers and parents are telling you class size reduction is valuable. Asked Board to take class size reduction off the list.

Robert Cunha, parent

- Where can we increase revenues? Businesses are willing to contribute for sponsorships.
- \$107,000 for class size reduction is a small amount that we should be able to raise.

Jennifer Lane, Oak Chan Elementary teacher

- Supports class size reductions.
- The API scores are in jeopardy. Saving \$100,000 on the backs of 8 year olds is deplorable.
- Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Bettencourt - I met with you on the City of Folsom rezone. 50 people from 50 neighborhoods met and came up with solutions. Parents and teachers are intelligent and willing to work with you.

Joyce Scolnick, Theodore Judah Elementary teacher

- Please preserve class size reduction. Teachers voted to preserve this by giving up their pay increase before.

Peggy Miller, parent

- Please do not cut any part of our K-12 music program.

Ed Shapley, parent

- Spoke in support of the music programs.
- Concerned about cuts proposed for division leaders.
- Asked Board to be equitable in the cuts.

Dave Black, CHS Music Boosters

- Spoke in support of music program.

Fred Beiderbecke, parent

- The music program is one of the crown jewels of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District and should not be cut.

Heather Reeder, CHS student

- Spoke in support of library clerks.

Barbara Brydon

- Need to dip into the reserves for the \$107,000 to save class size reduction.

Leslie Martin, parent

- Would gladly pay to keep programs in place. Need revenue generation.
- Why not get out of the transportation business and outsource to a private company? Run it as a profitable enterprise.

Cheryl Johnson, parent

- Supports class size reduction.

- Concerned about summer school cuts. Can we utilize the Community College to get some of the courses our students need?
- Our music program is very beneficial to students.

George Schumacher, parent

- Need solutions, not just cuts.
- Ask families to give up cable TV (\$600/year) and donate half to the school and the other half in a college education fund for their kids. One of many solutions if we only had the leadership.

Michael Riley

- Would like to back Stephanie regarding transportation. If we reduce the opportunity for high school students to get on the bus to get to school, we may reduce the attendance rate further, resulting in reduced revenue.
- Removing transportation will result in a lot more congestion in front of the schools causing a safety issue. Increases insurance premiums and risk of lawsuits.

Joanne Brausch, parent and school volunteer

- We raise hundreds of thousands of dollars every year, why can't we simply say to the elementary groups that we need \$107,000 to save class size reduction.
- 95% of the proposed cuts affect the secondary level.
- Take away programs, clubs, and athletics and you will lose ADA at the middle school level.

Ed Rylander, parent

- Please reclassify cheerleading to a sport from a club.
- Help us help you to raise funds for our clubs.

Manjit Kherra, parent

- Suggested to all parents to please send your child to school everyday. My son does not miss school because he may miss sports. Please eliminate Item 19, reduce administrative positions at district secondary schools, from the proposed list. These administrators work with the families to approve attendance.
- Urged Board to not make any budget cuts in music and sports.

President Benton recessed at 10:20 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:35 p.m.

Mr. Shaw

- The speakers tonight had good reasons, spoke succinctly, and made good points.
- Need to have a balanced budget. The Board's job is to prevent the district from going into a hole or have the state take us over. We need to stay solvent. We also need to meet legal deadlines in notifying potential layoffs.
- This is not a finished process tonight. It will continue through spring and summer.
- The Board is telling the administration to keep working and find ways.
- In making decisions on cutting and saving, I look for the educational reasons and how we can do the best job educating kids.
- The test scores in the district are going up every year and so are the cuts. Teachers are doing a really good job. Believes third grade class size reduction is critical to keeping our test scores up.

Teachers saved it last year. We need to honor that. We eliminated early/late last year for third grade and this would give them a double hit.

- Inclined to take class size reduction off the list and approve the rest of the list.

Mrs. Myers

- Reminded everyone that the list is a working document that we have to work on, which will hopefully improve as the financial picture changes for the better at the state level.
- Impressed with the number of people and their ideas who came forward tonight and especially the teachers who were very eager to be participants in the process. With the collective bargaining environment there are limitations on how much involvement is allowed in the process.
- This is a terrible situation with no good choices.
- I can support most of the Superintendent's recommendations, but if additional revenue becomes available would like to restore all that is possible.
- Priority should be Vice Principals at the secondary schools. They are critical. We are already 13 administrators below the average.
- Restoration of library clerks is important due to risk to our collections if we don't have people minding the libraries.
- Has been asked by citizens why we are not discussing days without pay. Asked staff to please explain constraints on that type of solution.
- Also, why are we not considering asking employees to defer step and column increases for a few months?
- Are there any legal limitations on having a district-wide fundraiser for class size reduction?
- We should have a taskforce of 3rd grade teachers and parents to look for alternative funding mechanisms.
- We do have foundations if we want to start a campaign to solicit funds.
- Should be collaborating with music boosters in each community. It is a lifelong learning skill of great value. Wants to preserve it.
- Do not want to dip into reserves. Extremely risky to pay back.
- Why are there barriers to raising funds for cheerleaders?
- We need a hard-hitting campaign to bring up attendance in our schools. It is a solution that would work and is immediate.
- Looking for ideas to close the budget gap. Pleased we have started, but there is a lot more to be done. Hopes the word will spread that we are looking for ideas and want a collaborative approach with our employees.
- Willing to consider reprogramming some of the funds from the cell phone tower revenue.
- Can we solicit fees to support athletics and extra curricular?
- Can we use the previously mentioned Intel funds?
- What are the barriers for cheerleaders raising funds?
- Regarding businesses in Folsom and their sales taxes, having served on city council would like to say that cities don't share sales taxes with schools. That is not a possibility.

Mrs. Bettencourt

- We are allowed to charge fees for transportation for extra curricular activities.
- If people want to donate and designate where funds go that is perfectly fine.
- The Intel funds were earned by individual schools based on the number of participates they had in the volunteer program. Those funds went directly to the school site. Did not come to district. Most sites have already spent or earmarked the funds.
- Regarding the item about barriers to fundraisers brought up about CHS cheerleaders, none of us at this table are aware of this, but we will look into it.

- We have received over \$550,000 from the communities this year in donations.

SHAW/SHORT MOVED to approve the list as is while eliminating item #1 – Third Grade Class Size Reduction.

Mrs. Stanley

- Appreciates the public participation.
- We heard over and over, the PTA's will help, parents will help, businesses will help, and teachers will help to overcome hurdles. As a school district, we do have constraints. One speaker acknowledged our constraints and asked us to help them help us. I'm hoping we can come up with a mechanism to do that. Beneficial to have a town hall meeting where all groups can come out and brainstorm with us.
- We have a very tight framework in which to work. We try to minimize the number of pink slips that go out. Need to make tough decisions tonight to protect the district in case we need to do some of these very difficult things.
- Didn't hear any support tonight for reinstating district administration.
- Need to do our best to ensure that we are not shutting down opportunities for our students to learn.
- Looking at #4, we are going to tell 8th graders who are ready to do geometry that they cannot do that. We are telling kids fresh into America that they can't sit in Newcomers class with someone providing a little extra help to help them adjust to our culture, language, and school system. We are looking at taking away reading opportunities for secondary students who were whole language learners for reading and still can't read very well. That is shutting down opportunities.
- When we cut out clubs or extra curricular activities, that forecloses opportunities for kids to get into college.
- Hope we can keep class size reduction. Hoped we could reinstate 9th grade class size reduction and we are not able to. Teachers will still be teaching these kids. I don't see this as shutting off opportunities because they will still learn.
- If people are interested enough in keeping their own particular program or extra curricular activity, maybe we can find a way to do that outside of the system.
- Will not support motion. I don't believe we should remove #1 until we've determined how we are going to fill all the gaps in our deficit.
- Would like the district to consider the reduction of nurses to a greater degree. It is more of a luxury compared to other districts.

Mr. Short

- Declining revenues and increasing expenditures causes us to be back at this dilemma every year.
- This impacts a lot of people. We need to make some hard decisions.
- This is a placeholder in order to move forward. There may be other opportunities to fill gaps.
- None of these are more important than the other. But, what stuck out to me is the 3rd grade class size reduction and the better learning environment it creates. We should make it the number one priority to save.
- I support the motion to remove it at this time. Encourage colleagues to support also.
- Heard a lot about participation and involving the community tonight. I hope we can all get together and solve these problems. Need to keep building blocks on the table, and the cutting block on the side.

Mrs. Myers

- I will support the motion.

- We need to be kept abreast of any changes so we can discuss possible restorations.
- There is a real lack of public understanding of high school funding and staffing. There was an impression that the new 2nd high school was taking away from these programs. That is not the case. It is a different pot of money, supported by the public that cannot be used for any purpose other than the school construction the people voted on. The state pays us per student for the staffing. School construction is not taking away from the programs.

Mrs. Stanley

- Shares Mrs. Myers' concern regarding restoration of any programs and the need to have board involvement.
- Extremely concerned about the loss of certain classes.
- There are a lot of other things on this list that people need for their students. We need to find ways to do this.
- Would like to know if there is board support for a Town Hall meeting to explore revenue generating.

Mr. Benton

- Supports class size reductions.
- If we take class size reductions off the list, some of our options are gone.
- If we approve the list as whole, and make it so class size reduction is the first thing to restore if funds are available, we have options. Looking at the numbers, there should be funds available.
- Supports the concept and don't see a problem supporting the motion.
- My problem is in removing our options.
- If we save #1 on the list, there will be a handful of teachers who won't get a layoff notice and that is a great thing. But, there will be a handful of staff that won't get paid certain times during the year. There will be a handful of staff that won't be able to see your child when he falls and bumps his knee because they are seeing a child who fell down and sprained his ankle.
- This is a nasty list.
- Tell the newcomers we are going to throw them in regular classrooms with everyone else.
- Tell the nurses, counselors, and sites we are taking their positions away.
- Tell the administrators, who we have hit the last 6 years, that we are going to do it some more.
- Tell the school who their principal is and that he/she is also a principal somewhere else. Imagine a principal at two sites.
- I will vote with the motion and take class size reduction off the list. It will make many people happy.
- But this is far from a time to celebrate. There are people whose lives we are ruining by the action we are taking tonight.
- No transportation for high school students.
- Closing schools in July is a huge maintenance issue.
- Appreciate the number (39) of speakers who came forward tonight.
- Comments were made about talking to the community first. We do talk to the community through newspapers, websites, and emails.
- Applauded the staff for all their research behind the scenes.

Mrs. Myers

- Directed staff to follow up with the idea of a task force or public participation/town hall concept to involve community, teachers and parents.

Shaw/Short withdrew the motion and offered the following substitute motion:

SUBSTITUTE MOTION

SHAW/SHORT MOVED TO ACCEPT the list in its entirety to assist staff in developing the 2004-2005, with class size reduction being the first priority item to be restored should additional revenue become available.

Further clarification included the following:

The Board has granted authorization to the Superintendent that whenever resources are identified that would permit modification to the 2004-2005 reduction list, the Superintendent will notify Trustees in writing of his intent to remove a specific item(s), and the money used to do so. If Trustees disagree with the suggestion, the item will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

MOTION CARRIED 4 AYES, 1 NO (STANLEY).

BENTON/MYERS MOVED TO continue the board meeting beyond 10:30 p.m. to consider discussion/action items 0304-222 and 0304-223 and postpone item 0304-224 to the March 18 agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-222 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-04-04-28 – Ordering of Seniority of Certificated Employees
STANLEY/MYERS MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-04-04-28 – Ordering of Seniority of Certificated Employees
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

0304-223 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-04-04-29 – Layoff of Certificated Employees
MYERS/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-04-04-29 – Layoff of Certificated Employees
MOTION CARRIED 4 AYES, 1 NO (STANLEY)

0304-224 – Naming of the Second High School in Folsom
This item was postponed to the March 18, 2004 meeting.

DISCUSSION

0304-225 – Folsom Cordova Board of Education 2003-05 Proposed Contract Openers to the Folsom Cordova Education Association and announcement of Public Hearing scheduled for the March 18, 2004 Regular Board Meeting.

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services Mindi Nunes reported that the Board has chosen to open the following articles:

Article 8 – Work Year, Work Day, Hours of Employment

Article 10 – Leaves of Absences

Appendix B – Official Work Year and Ratio Factors

Appendix C – Basic Teacher Salary Schedule

REPORTS

0304-226 – Reports to the Board of Education

A. Superintendent Siefkin reported on the following:

- Announced a Special Board meeting on March 11th at 5:00 p.m. at the District Office.

B. Correspondence to the Board

C. District Committees

BOARD OF EDUCATION

0304-227 – Board Business

A. Board Communication

Stephanie Shaffer

- Agrees with Mrs. Stanley that the best approach is to meet with the community to get the word out and let the community help figure out a way to keep this district going.

Richard Shaw

- Enjoyed reading to the kids on Tuesday more than this meeting.

Ed Short

- Agrees that we should have a town hall meeting for community involvement.
- Class size reduction should be our number one priority.
- This is not any easy decision tonight.

Teresa Stanley

- Really infuriated to see the Folsom High School newsletter. The article called Teens and Sex was inappropriate. Encourages teens to have sex as long as they are mature enough. Believes it was written by our FHS nurse, because the words match a letter from her.
- Referenced another quote in the newsletter regarding teens seeking guidance from their level headed and supportive parents and feels it is another slam as a parent. This coming from the same person who told the board previously that some parents are too controlling and domineering. The whole idea of this is offensive. Placing in a school newsletter is not appropriate. This newsletter goes out as a district piece.
- Still waiting for the number of students released for confidential medical services.
- Enjoyed Read Across America.
- Attended the Glenn Miller concert. FHS jazz band was great.
- Best wishes to Suzanne Linley on her retirement.
- Thanks to Mr. Benton for keeping a very civilized meeting.
- Happy birthday to my daughter who is 15 today.

Sara Myers

- Thanked music boosters for the tickets to the Glenn Miller concert. Band director was full of praise of our theatre and our music program.
- Congratulations to Suzanne Linley. She has been a mainstay in our elementary education at the district office. I will miss her.
- Excited about the Folsom second high school.
- Participated in Read Across America and had the 3rd grade which is my favorite.
- Grateful to the public for the passage of Propositions 55, 57, and 58.
- Would like to end a long conflict-filled topic tonight with a lighter note. A woman told her husband, “I have bad news and worse news.” He said, “What’s that?” She said, “I ran over your golf clubs.” He said, “What is the worse news?” She said, “They were on the front porch.”

Roger Benton

- Week of the school administrator is great.
- Happy birthday to White Rock Family Clinic. It will be 10 years old on March 18th.
- California League of High Schools has chosen CHS teacher Glenn Regan as a nominee for Educator of the Year. There will be an April celebration.

- This was an awful meeting tonight. Transportation for high schools is a problem, closing schools in July is a problem; cutting 10% from the music program might be a problem.
- Appreciates the Board keeping our options open.
- Appreciates the folks that showed up tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

INFORMATION

0304-228 – Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Folsom

0304-229 – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2004 at Mills Middle School, 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670.

Record of meeting schedule for March 4, 2004:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:15 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	11:35 p.m.

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

Teresa A. Stanley, Clerk of the Board