

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

May 19, 2005

MINUTES

Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Mills Middle School
Cafetorium
10439 Coloma Road
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Richard Shaw, President
Teresa A. Stanley, Vice President
Edward Short, Clerk
Sara Myers, Member
Mary McCormick, Member
Heather Reeder, Student Member

May 19, 2005

Board members present: Richard Shaw, Teresa Stanley, Ed Short, Sara Myers, Mary McCormick, and Student Member Heather Reeder

5:00 p.m. – Open Session CALL TO ORDER (Held in Room 41)
President Shaw announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:05 p.m. – Closed Session (Held in Room 41)

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

Meeting convened at 6:15 p.m. President Shaw called the meeting to order. Melinda Turley, Cordova High School student, 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.

Mr. Rickabaugh read a short bio on the following retirees: Stephanie Leonguerrero, Special Education Instructional Assistant at Mitchell Middle School and Preschool Assistant at Rancho Cordova Elementary School, who retires from the district with 14 years of service; Folsom Middle School teacher Mary Paxton who retires with 32 years of service to FCUSD; and Folsom Lake High School teacher Mike Oreno, who retires with 31 years of service.

Superintendent Siefkin reported that Trustees unanimously appointed Ms. Kathryn Allaman as Vice Principal of Folsom High School for the 2005/2006 school year.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Approved in Closed Session)

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

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

CERTIFICATED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Kathleen Chew, Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School, 50% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 08/11/05 through 12/16/05.

- Julie Dunn, Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School, 50% Parental Leave of Absence, 08/11/05 through 12/16/05. 50% Personal Leave of Absence, 12/17/05 through 06/02/06.
- Jennifer Holley, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School, 50% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 08/11/05 through 03/10/06.
- Stacy Joseph, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Daw-Suwan Kesler, Teacher, Cordova High School, 100% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Michelle Mc Donald, Teacher, Rancho Cordova Elementary School, 50% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Stephanie Maddrell, Teacher, Cordova High School, 20% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Suzanne Solorzano, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 04/11/05 through 05/19/05.

CERTIFICATED EMPLOYMENT

The following employees are being *re-hired* with *Temporary* status for the 2005/2006 school year:

- Marianne Smith, Teacher, Carl Sundahl Elementary School
- Anna Knott, Teacher, Charter School K – 8/Theodore Judah Elementary School
- Michelle Favro, Teacher, Cordova Gardens Elementary School
- Sarah Kirby, Teacher, Cordova Gardens Elementary School
- Tina Ma, Teacher, Cordova Meadows Elementary School
- Lynda Purser, Title 1 Teacher, Cordova Meadows Elementary School
- David Dean, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Jennifer Fagan, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Mary Garrido, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Jeri Kozel, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Kristin Rubow, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Mary Anderson, Special Education Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School
- Heather Davis, Special Education Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School
- Charity Owens, Teacher (50% Time), Folsom Hills Elementary School
- Tracey Buffalo, Teacher, Mather Heights Elementary School
- Christina Ferris, Teacher, Mather Heights Elementary School
- Heather Sancedo, Teacher, Mather Heights Elementary School
- Virginia Zychalski, Special Education Teacher, Mather Youth Opportunity
- Brooke Webster, Teacher (50% Time), Natoma Station Elementary School
- Melissa Wolking, Teacher (50% Time), Oak Chan Elementary School
- Terry Hladik, Teacher (50% Time), Rancho Cordova Elementary School
- Aurica Kirkwood, Teacher, Rancho Cordova Elementary School
- Jodi Nguyen, Teacher (50% Time), Riverview Elementary School
- Deborah Rasmussen, Teacher (50% Time), Riverview Elementary School
- Michael Itkoff, Teacher, Sandra J. Gallardo Elementary School
- Aimee Peterson, Teacher, Sandra J. Gallardo Elementary School
- Andrea Agles, Teacher, Folsom Middle School
- Narine Ayunts, Title 1 Teacher, Mills Middle School
- Matthew Chan, Title 1 Teacher, Mills Middle School

- Scott Meyer, Teacher, Mills Middle School
- Lisa Myers, Teacher, Mills Middle School
- Patrick McAdam, Special Education Teacher, Mitchell Middle School
- Keith Rowe, Teacher, Sutter Middle School
- Denise Whitelaw, Special Education Teacher, Sutter Middle School
- Thomas Clapp, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Virginia Goss, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Don Isbell, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Kevin Lobbstael, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Wendy Pierce, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Marty Remmers, Special Education Teacher, Cordova High School
- Marc Volz, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Michael Wegsteen, Teacher, Cordova High School
- Linda Woodard, Teacher, Cordova High School
- John Lusk, Teacher (60% Time), Folsom High School
- Debra Lichtman, Teacher, Folsom High School
- Gayle Martin, Teacher, Folsom High School
- Margaret Miller, Teacher, Folsom High School
- Kimberly Moore, Teacher, Folsom High School
- Lanette Sanchez, Teacher, Folsom High School
- Lori Downey, Special Education Teacher, Folsom Lake High School
- Gregory Alburn, Teacher, Kinney High School
- Kathryn Olsen, Music Teacher, Elementary Prep

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Shara Bachman, Teacher, Blanche Sprentz Elementary School. Shara was hired on August 19, 2003, and has been employed 2 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: June 3, 2006
- Sara Brownell, Teacher, Sutter Middle School. Sara was hired on August 20, 2002, and has been employed 3 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: June 3, 2005.
- Chadwick Hedge, Military Instructor, Mather Youth Academy. Chadwick was hired on November 1, 2004, and has been employed 6 months with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 05/07/05.

CERTIFICATED CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT

- Jean Cavanaugh, Teacher, Folsom High School. From: 80% ROP/20% Teacher; To: 40% ROP/60% Teacher. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Donna Eddy, Teacher (50% Time); From: Cordova Villa Elementary School; To: Mather Heights Elementary School. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- April Hackert, Teacher, Natoma Station Elementary School. From: 70%; To: 100%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Kellie Hurlimann, Teacher, Blanche Sprentz Elementary School. From: 80%; To: 100%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Giuliana Farruggia, Cordova Gardens Elementary School. From: 100% Teacher; To: 100% Special Education Teacher. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Linda Liebert, Teacher; From: 100% Folsom Hills Elementary School; To: 100% Sandra J. Gallardo Elementary School. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.

- Lisa Mahoney, Teacher, Natoma Station Elementary School. From: 50%; To: 100%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Jennifer Salter, Teacher; From: 50% Natoma Station Elementary School; To: 50% Charter School K – 8/Theodore Judah Elementary School. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Shailau Spivak, Teacher (From Leave of Absence). From: 100% Teacher Cordova Lane Elementary School; To: 100% Foreign Language Teacher, Folsom Hills Elementary School. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Julianne Thompson, Teacher; From: 50% Oak Chan Elementary School; To: 50% Natoma Station Elementary School. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Barbara Williams, Teacher; From: 100% Williamson Elementary School; To: 100% Cordova Gardens Elementary School.

CERTIFICATED VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN ASSIGNMENT

- Lanette Crowley, Teacher, Cordova Gardens Elementary School. From: 100%; To: 40%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Donna Eddy, Teacher, Mather Heights Elementary School. From: 100%; To: 50%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Laura Gutierrez, Teacher Natoma Station Elementary School. From: 100%; To: 50%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.
- Jennifer Holley, Teacher, Empire Oaks Elementary School. From: 100%; To: 50%. Effective: 03/11/06.
- Sandra Johnson, Teacher, Natoma Station Elementary School. From: 80%; To: 60%. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.

RATIFY RETIREMENT AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Michael Oreno, Teacher, Folsom Lake High School. Michael was hired on September 1, 1974, to teach physical education at Folsom High School. He also taught mathematics and coached football and baseball. He transferred to Folsom Lake High School at the beginning of the 2003/2004 school year. Michael retires on June 3, 2005. Michael has been employed 31 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District.
- Mary Paxton, Teacher, Folsom Middle School. Mary was hired September 1, 1973, to teach art and mathematics at Folsom Junior High School. She retires on June 3, 2005. Mary has been employed 32 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District.

CERTIFICATED PRE-RETIREMENT

- Linda Swan, Teacher, Cordova Gardens Elementary School (*revised*). From: 50% work assignment; To: 60% work assignment. Effective: 2005/2006 school year.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT 2005/2006

MYERS/McCORMICK MOVED TO APPROVE the Administrative Appointments for 2005/2006 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Vice Principal for Folsom High School – Kathryn Allaman

Part of Kathryn Allaman’s background includes:

2003-Present	Assistant Principal, Center High School. Curriculum coordination and standards alignment.
1999-2003	Digital High School, Curriculum Integration Coordinator. Coordination of staff development for technology integration across the curriculum.
1990- Present	Center High School, Secondary Mathematics Instructor, grades 9 – 12.

1986-1988 Active Learning Instructor. Facilitation of self-study mastery learning materials for three-day study skills seminars.

1984 -1986 Sylvan Learning Center Director.

1979 -1984 Loretto High School, Mathematics Department Chairman/Secondary Mathematics Instructor.

Center High School Teacher of the Year Award – 2002
Center High School District Teacher of the Year Award – 2002
Sacramento County Teacher of the Year Award – 2002
Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellow Award Recipient - 2003

- Michael Shepherd; From: 100% Teacher, Mitchell Middle School; To: 60% Department Chair/Elementary Prep/Music/40% Teacher, Mitchell Middle School.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

MYERS/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Maria Aguirre (replacement) Bilingual Instructional Assistant (#204131), Family Support Services, 3.9 hours daily/12 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 5/2/05
- Jennifer Leonard (replacement) Preschool Associate Teacher (#991530), Cordova Meadows Elem., 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 5/2/05

Summer School Administrative Assistants

- Cheryl Blower, Cordova High, Range 20/Step D. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/22/05
- Dorothy Hartzell, Folsom High, Range 20/Step C. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/1/05
- Rhoda Pacillas, Folsom High, Range 20/Step B. Effective: 7/5/05 through 7/8/05
- Cathi Cassidy, Mather Youth Academy, Range 20/Step A. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- Tiressa Briggs, Mitchell Middle, Range CL 20/Step A. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- Jody Rider, Sutter Middle, Range CL20/Step E. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- JoAnne Peterson, Theodore Judah Elem., Range CL 20/Step E. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- Karen Johnson, Natoma Station Elem., Range CL 20/Step B. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- Darlene Farrell, Williamson Elem., Range CL20/Step E++. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05
- Shirley Watkins, Cordova Villa Elem., Range CL20/Step E. Effective: 6/13/05 through 7/8/05

CLASSIFIED REASSIGNMENT

- Boris Brenich (replacement) Custodian (#205044, #205045), 3 hours daily, Folsom High and 2 hours daily, Empire Oaks Elem., to 5.5 hours daily, Williamson Elem. Effective: 6/10/05
- Vladimir Chernetskiy (replacement) Custodian (#991203), Mitchell Middle from 6 hours daily to 8 hours daily. Effective: 5/9/05
- Pamela Parsons (replacement) Administrative Assistant I (#203092), Business Services, 4 hours daily/12 months, Range CL 18/Step D, to School Clerk-Elementary (#203017), Mather Heights Elem., 4.5 hours daily/10 months, Range CL12/Step E. Effective: 5/16/05

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Keniece Davis, Bus Driver (#205597), Transportation Dept., reason: other employment. Effective: 5/5/05
- Ann Gateley, Special Education Instructional Assistant (#204029), Sutter Middle, reason: education. Effective: 6/2/05

- Barbara Graves, Student Care Center Assistant (#200209), Natoma Station Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 4/29/05
- Terrie Paolini, Campus Monitor (#201355), Sutter Middle, reason: personal. Effective: 5/6/05
- Rebecca Sloan, Public Relations Coordinator (#201463), Superintendent's Office, reason: other employment. Effective: 5/19/05

CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT

- Stephanie Leonguerrero, Special Education Instructional Assistant (#203305), Mitchell Middle and Preschool Assistant (#205050), Rancho Cordova Elem. Effective: 1/28/05
Stephanie was hired as a Student Care Assistant at Cordova Villa on October 17, 1990. In April of 1993 she became a Preschool Assistant at the same school. In addition to the preschool position, Stephanie became a Special Education Instructional Assistant in September of 1998. Stephanie retires with fourteen years of service to the District.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

President Shaw asked Superintendent Siefkin to introduce the special presentation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mills Middle School – READ 180

Superintendent Siefkin introduced Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos. Ms. DeArcos reported that the READ 180 program is being used at Mills Middle School and Cordova Villa Elementary School, and introduced Mills Middle School Principal Dennis Willeford. Mr. Willeford introduced Christine Anderson, leader teacher, and teacher Carmen Kardokus who implemented the new Title I program.

Ms. Anderson gave a brief overview of READ 180, which is an intensive reading intervention program for students who are reading two or more years below grade level. It is designed to meet the needs of all students and is a highly engaging and interactive program. The focus of the program is targeted instruction. She read responses from a student survey which indicated that students feel their reading skills have greatly improved.

Mr. Willeford would like to expand READ 180 at Mills Middle School with Title I funding and additional sections.

President Shaw thanked all involved for this new and exciting program.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SHORT/MYERS MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0405-280 Public Participation

Donna Borsh, Library Clerk at Peter J. Shields Elementary School

Received notice on Monday that her position was being eliminated. Spoke on behalf of library clerks in the district. Wanted to impress upon Trustees how important library clerks are to students, and to ask that they reconsider cutting the positions.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS (0405-281)

Student Advisory Board – Heather Reeder, Student Board Member, reported on the following:

- Finals week is coming up.
- Looking forward to the rally at the Capitol next Wednesday.
- Maria Huseinbhai, new board student member, will attend the next board meeting.
- Agrees with Ms. Borsh that library clerks are very important, especially to elementary schools.
- Talked about the responsibilities of the student activities director at Cordova High School. She requested a job description be written for that position.

PTA/PTO Council - No report

California School Employees Association – Pat Wilhoit.

- Requested that Folsom Cordova Unified School District adopt a resolution declaring May 15 through May 21 as Classified Employees Week. She gave a summary of roles classified people play in the lives of students.

President Shaw thanked all classified employees and said the work they do is valued by the Board and the District.

Folsom Cordova Education Association – No report.

Folsom Cordova Administrators Association – President Sherian Kutzera reported:

- Rancho Cordova Elementary is having a baked potato bar luncheon for their classified employees.
- The district math contest was great, and winners this year were:
Sixth grade, first place went to Ricardo Matsui from Sutter Middle School, and second place to Yiran Li from Folsom Middle School.
Fifth grade, first place went to Akanksha Trivedi from Gold Ridge Elementary, and there was a second place tie between Melissa Regalia from Gold Ridge Elementary and Michael Jercich from Sandra Gallardo Elementary.
- Cordova Meadows Elementary received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for 2004. They were one of 248 schools selected out of almost 6,000.
- Theodore Judah Principal Judy Cutright was elected President of FCAA at their meeting held on May 4.
- Thanked the Trustees for being attentive and good listeners during the meetings at which she has reported this year. Enjoyed coming to all the board meetings.

AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0405-282– Administrative Matters

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2005
- B. Approve Special Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2005
- C. Change June 23, 2005, Board Meeting Location

0405-283 – Business Matters

- A. Warrants and Payroll: Monthly Ratification
- B. Accept Donations: To Acknowledge Receipt of Donations to the District

- C. Approve Change Order No. 7 – Cordova High School Modernization 2004
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 05-19-05-47 – Continued Participation in the Lower-Emission School Bus Program

0405-284 - Instructional Matters

A. **Expulsion Panel Recommendations:** Case Numbers: 0405-43, 0405-48, and 0405-52
0405-43

Expel through the end of the 1st trimester of the 2005-2006 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend either the Mather Youth Academy, the Charter School at Theodore Judah Elementary School, or any accredited educational program outside of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District through the end of the 1st trimester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to successfully complete a summer school program; if student violates any of the requirements of his suspended expulsion order, he will be assigned to the Mather Youth Academy and will have to complete one semester in the program in order to return to a comprehensive school in the district; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills.

0405-48

Expel through the end of the 1st trimester of the 2005-2006 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy for the remainder of the 3rd trimester of the 2004-2005 academic year, summer session, and the 1st trimester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to successfully complete at least two trimesters at the Mather Youth Academy in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program of the FCUSD; individual student counseling to address anger management and decision-making skills.

0405-52

Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy for the remainder of the 3rd trimester and summer session; student is to successfully complete one trimester and summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to return to a comprehensive program in FCUSD; if student successfully completes requirements at the Mather Youth Academy, student may attend Folsom High School during the fall semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; individual student counseling to address substance abuse and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon district request.

- B. Approve Master Contracts for Nonpublic School Placement and Approve Individual Service Agreements for Specific Students
- C. Approve Nonpublic Agencies and Individual Service Agreements for Specific Students
- D. Approve Extended Educational Field Trip Request: Folsom High School Cheerleaders to UCA Cheer Camp in Monterey, California

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0405-285 - Review and Approve Amendments to Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Plan
Superintendent Siefkin introduced Assistant Superintendent Leslie Faust to introduce the item.

Ms. Faust explained that this plan was approved one year ago and that the district was required this year to amend two sections. The first was the criteria used to identify GATE students, and the second was an addition to the plan explaining how the program is evaluated. She introduced Ginny Bateman to answer questions.

STANLEY/MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE Amendments to the Gifted and Talented Education Plan
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0405-286 - Approve Course Outlines

Superintendent Siefkin acknowledged the work accomplished by Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos and her schools over the last couple of years in updating old course outlines to meet our standards-based instruction and writing new course outlines. He indicated that some of the courses had not been updated for over 20 years.

Ms. DeArcos presented ten outlines for approval. One outline on the agenda had been pulled for modification, and two were revised to strike the section on 'Lab Fees' since we do not charge fees for courses. We charge for materials if students fabricate items to take home. Courses will be modified to reflect that practice.

Ms. Stanley asked for clarification on the use of the word "academy" in the course titled Culinary Academy. She also asked that a section be added to the 'Advanced Conditioning' course to include instruction on the dangers/effects of performance-enhancing substances.

Ms. DeArcos said that could be accomplished.

STANLEY/MYERS MOVED TO APPROVE the new course outlines and rewritten course outlines for the 2005-2006 school year with changes regarding lab fees and performance-enhancing drugs, as noted above.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0405-287 - Award Bid: Navigator Elementary School

Superintendent Siefkin noted the significance of this item since Navigator Elementary will be the first new school to be built in Rancho Cordova in some time. He introduced Deputy Superintendent Debbie Bettencourt.

Ms. Bettencourt said this is the first new school to be built in Rancho Cordova since Cordova Meadows in 1964/65. It is part of the Measure B success plan. Facilities Director Matt Washburn explained why the bids were higher than anticipated.

Ms. Stanley asked for clarification on the change in the flooring bid.

Ms. Myers asked for clarification about expansive soil at site.

SHORT/MCCORMICK MOVED TO APPROVE the bids and, with the exception of contracts to Roebbelen Construction, assign the contracts to Roebbelen Construction Management Services, Inc. as the Construction Manager.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

0405-288 – 9th Grade Class Size Reduction – Cordova High School

Superintendent Siefkin introduced Janie DeArcos and indicated that even though this item would involve a monetary commitment in a time of reductions, the fact that it is instructionally driven makes it appropriate for this evening.

Ms. DeArcos explained that this program would benefit students who are far below and below basic range on the STAR CST, and that between Folsom High School and Cordova High School, Cordova has more students in this range. Therefore, 9th grade class size reduction is being proposed for Cordova High School in language arts and math. The program would involve five sections of each subject and would be at a student teacher ratio of 20:1. Students would have two periods of language

arts, one being the core curriculum and the other a language arts support class, such as Effective Reading. In math, students would be in Transition to Algebra at 20:1. The cost of the program would be approximately \$15,600 for the ten sections (five of each). No new classrooms would be required; teachers would be 'hotseated.'

Ms. Myers

She has no quibble with the value and necessity of the program, but wonders where the money will come from.

Ms. Bettencourt answered that in the May revise of the budget, the district's COLA was increased affording a little more money. Increased lottery money could also be used.

Ms. Stanley

Asked for clarification on the math progression and what part summer school might play.

Ms. DeArcos said 8th graders who are now in Transition to Algebra and are doing poorly would have to go to middle school summer school. Some students have passed classes with a low grade or have low diagnostic testing. They have choices in summer school at Folsom or Cordova High Schools. There is a six-week summer school program to take pre-algebra skills in preparation for Algebra 1.

Ms. Stanley

Asked if Ms. DeArcos expected the Smaller Learning Community at Folsom High to benefit students who are below basic.

Ms. DeArcos said there is a bridges program that will help. This will be a course which is similar to a study hall, but is an intervention class where teachers can bring students up to where they should be in their regular class.

Ms. Stanley

Thinks 9th grade class size reduction is very valuable and would like to see it at more than one high school. The cost is not huge, but recognizes in these times when cuts are being made, it is tough to balance. It's a great idea if we can find the money.

Mr. Shaw

At first questioned the impact of the program on the general fund, but now realizes that at \$15,000, this is one of the best values we can get for our money.

President Shaw asked for public comment.

Suren Kopparapu, Folsom parent

Thinks there would be more benefit to students by spending more time in the classroom with teachers than by having less students in the classroom.

Ms. DeArcos said that was a good point; however, teachers can spend more individual time with students in a 20:1 class than they can in a 34:1 class. Smaller classes actually yield more time with the instructor.

Mr. Shaw thinks the method a teacher uses to deliver instruction changes with the number of students in a class. When the number is over 24, the mode of instruction becomes 'mass teaching' and is

impersonal as opposed to dealing with children one-on-one. Effectiveness increases with smaller class sizes.

0405-289 – Governor’s May Revise – Budget Update

Superintendent Siefkin introduced Debbie Bettencourt.

Ms. Bettencourt attended the Governor’s May Revise Budget Workshop today and reviewed the May budget revise for the Trustees. Key points:

- The COLA increased to 4.23 percent, which will net the district approximately \$54,000.
- The State is decreasing the allocation for enrollment growth based on slower growth state-wide.
- The Lottery funds are up approximately \$130,000.
- There will be a proposal in June to increase transportation fees by \$40,000.
- The State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) shift is still in the budget proposal.
- The student mental health services currently funded by the county mental health department will be withdrawn and transferred to districts.
- If Proposition 98 were not suspended, schools would have received \$1.4 billion more in 2005/06.
- The State Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees for Education voted to increase the education budget by \$2 billion for 2005/06 and are opposed to the STRS shift.

Now that the STRS shift is still in the budget, staff will submit in June a balanced budget based on input from Trustees and cabinet members.

Ms. Bettencourt explained that the top half of the Budget Reductions Chart contains cuts that will enable us to balance our budget if the STRS shift stays in place. The bottom half of the chart contains items to be restored based on additional funds from district departments (\$700,000.00), additional revenues from the lottery, increased transportation fees, and the additional COLA. The total amount of the restorations (\$893,000.00) doesn’t use all of this money. We will have approximately \$31,000.00 to use to support class size reduction in 9th grade should Trustees choose to do that.

Ms. Stanley questioned what the reduction in non-mandated health costs would mean in services.

Ms. Bettencourt said it includes things such as additional follow-up on student illnesses or accidents, coordination with teachers, and follow-up on student health care plans. These are not mandated. There is partial restoration of those services.

Ms. Stanley asked if that means if a student has asthma or a diabetic condition, are we not mandated to set up a plan for that student at school? Do teachers know what to do?

Ms. Bettencourt said that is not one of our mandated services. But, to protect ourselves from liability, we would be wise to have a professional do that.

Ms. Stanley asked about the administration of student care. She thought student care was self-supporting.

Ms. Bettencourt said originally this was to be transferred to an elementary principal, which would have saved one-half of the principal’s salary from the general fund. We’ve elected not to do that.

The administration actually has been assigned to the professional development academy. This means we will not be saving general fund costs.

Ms. Myers asked how certain we are that we can recover loss of facility use fees.

Ms. Bettencourt said she is not sure at this point. It is on the agenda for discussion with the City during the first week of June.

Ms. McCormick asked how much the transportation increase would be and inquired about the four-day work week in the summer.

Ms. Bettencourt answered 20%, from \$180.0 to \$210 or \$220 per student per year.

Assistant Superintendent Mindi Nunes addressed the four-day work week question and said it was tried last year. Custodians went to four days, but we didn't notice any significant savings in utility bills.

Mr. Shaw asked if in today's meeting there was any indication that maybe the STRS shift would not happen.

Ms. Bettencourt said that all indications are that the legislature is not in favor of the shift. We have to budget as if it will happen, but indications are that it probably won't.

Mr. Shaw is happy that we can come away tonight saying we gained approximately \$900,000.00 and were able to restore some counselors, library clerks, and music stipends. This will help very much.

Ms. Stanley said she spent the weekend with the California School Board Association and legislators. Senator Dave Cox said he is willing to ask about ways to fund the STRS shift. She heard that there may be more than one legal opinion saying the shift isn't legal.

REPORTS

0405-290– Reports to the Board of Education

A. Superintendent Siefkin reported on the following:

- Reminded Trustees of the Employee Recognition next Tuesday, at 4:00 p.m., at Folsom Middle School.
- Cordova High School had their WASC Accreditation visit this spring and has received a letter giving them a six-year accreditation with a midterm review, which is good through June 30, 2011.
- Received a nice letter from Ms. Omera Johnson. She was selected as recipient of a home makeover as part of Roebblen Construction's home improvement project. She commended Roebblen for their work on her home.
- There will be a special board meeting on Thursday, May 26, 5:30 p.m., at Folsom High School. The purpose of the meeting is to appoint the new FCUSD superintendent.
- *Newsweek Magazine* in a recent article identified the top 1000 high schools in the country based on high academic testing and achievement. Two schools in the greater Sacramento area were included: Mira Loma High School was one, and Folsom High School was the other. Part of the criteria for selection was the number of students in an International Baccalaureate Program, the number of Advanced Placement exams, and the percent of graduating seniors. Congratulations to Folsom High.

- Received an email about the quality of the pole vault area at Cordova High School, indicating that it was unsafe. Principal Levy and Athletic Director Max Miller looked at it and also determined it to be unsafe. Through the efforts of Ms. Bettencourt, \$10,000.00 from the Schools Insurance Group safety fund will be used to correct it.
- B. Correspondence to the Board
C. District Committees

BOARD OF EDUCATION

0405-291– Board Business

A. Board Communication

Ms. Reeder

- Thank you to classified employees – they are not recognized enough.
- The next board meeting will be her last. She and Mr. Siefkin decided on a build-your-own sundae bar for the reception.
- Doesn't see how custodians can be included in budget cuts. The school sites are not very clean as it is.
- Doesn't think increasing the transportation fees is a good idea. A lot of families can't afford to pay.

Ms. McCormick

- Congratulations to our retirees.
- Welcome to Ms. Allaman.
- Classified employees are not always appreciated, and it is important to acknowledge them. They are usually the first to meet the students in the morning and last to see them at night.
- Thanks to Ms. Reeder. We will miss her.
- Looking forward to attending graduation ceremonies.
- Also would like to talk with each member of the exec council just to get to know them and gain information. Appreciates their help and support.

Ms. Myers

- It has been a pleasure serving with Ms. Reeder. Looks forward to the sundaes.
- Is amazed to hear about the *Newsweek* citation. Everyone needs to know about it.
- Congratulations to Mary Paxton and Mike Oreno, and welcome to Kathryn Allaman.
- The READ 180 program is one of the most vital programs we've implemented. She hopes we have the resources to expand it. Congratulations to all involved.
- With regard to Ms. Reeder's question about a job description for Activities Director, we need to provide one.
- Navigator Elementary School is a milestone for the Rancho Cordova community.
- Congratulations to the staff at Cordova High School on their WASC Accreditation.
- Classified employees should be recognized; they are valuable to the district.

Mr. Short

- Is impressed with and excited about the READ 180 intervention program. Would like to see it expanded to math.
- Great to hear Folsom High School has been recognized nationally.
- It's great to have a week to recognize classified employees; we don't do it enough.

- Is happy about the budget reinstatements, but is apprehensive about what the State will do. Thanks to staff for doing an excellent job.
- Thanks to Ms. Reeder for all of her candidness; he shares her concerns.
- It's exciting to see Navigator getting started. Great job by Matt Washburn and his staff. Finishing a school in one year is fast.

Ms. Stanley

- Would like staff to provide the number of confidential medical releases this year.
- Has heard that only 25% of graduates go on to college after high school. Would like to know the number of FCUSD graduates going on to a four-year college or to a community college.
- Appreciates staff finding the money to implement class size reduction for 9th graders at Cordova High school.
- Congratulations to Cordova High School on their WASC Accreditation.
- Congratulations to Judy Cutright, next year's FCEA president.
- Welcome to Kathryn Allaman.
- Already misses Rebecca Sloan and wishes her well.
- Congratulations to Cordova Meadows on the Title 1 award.
- Wanted to take the opportunity to thank the classified staff. We don't do that enough.
- Great for Folsom High School to be on *Newsweek's* list of the top 1000 high schools in the country.
- Is also looking forward to graduation ceremonies.
- When she was at the Capitol, one of Roger Niello's staff members wanted her to be sure to let everyone know that they offer an awards program. Any principals who want to present an award to students, please contact Niello's office.

Mr. Shaw

- Excited about the READ 180 program and 9th grade CSR at Cordova High School. With our pacing plans in place and test scores rising, the next step is to change the way teachers teach in the classroom. We need to get better at what we do. These programs will help.
- The Cordova High WASC Accreditation is great. Cordova High impressed the WASC visitation team; it is a great high school.
- Is going to Anaheim tomorrow to take part in the festivities surrounding Folsom Middle School's California Distinguished School designation.
- Was a judge in the science fair at Cordova Lane and was very impressed with the students' work.

B. Pending Board Requests

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

INFORMATION

0405-292– Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Rancho Cordova

0405-293 – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2005, at Folsom High School, 1655 Iron Point Road, Folsom, California, 95630.

Record of meeting schedule for April 21, 2005:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:15 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	8:35 p.m.

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

Ed Short, Clerk of the Board