

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

November 3, 2005

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Richard Shaw, President  
Teresa A. Stanley, Vice President  
Ed Short, Clerk  
Sara Myers, Member  
Mary McCormick, Member  
Maria Huseinbhai, Student Member

November 3, 2005

Board members present: Richard Shaw, Ed Short, Mary McCormick, Sara Myers, Teresa Stanley, and Maria Huseinbhai, student board member

5:00 p.m. – Open Session

CALL TO ORDER (Held in Library)

President Shaw 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 6:07 p.m. President Shaw called the meeting to order. Tim Hackley, Folsom High School student, led the flag salute.

**REPORTING OUT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

Superintendent Godwin asked Assistant Superintendent Mark Rickabaugh 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 personnel items  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CERTIFICATED CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT**

- Kate Wilson, Special Education Teacher; From: 100% Mather Heights Elementary School; To: 100% Mather Youth Academy. Effective: 10/10/05.

**CERTIFICATED EMPLOYMENT**

The following employees have been *hired* with Temporary status for the 2005/2006 school year:

- Dennis Jones, Teacher (#991729, #991732, #991737) Fall Semester Only, Kinney High School, Preliminary Single Subject Social Science Credential; BA; Class 2, Step 1. Effective: 10/10/05 through 12/16/05.

- Gabriele Merz-Johnson, Speech Pathologist (#203174, #204044) (20% Time), Speech Services, Preliminary Clinical Rehabilitative Services Language/Speech/Hearing Credential; MA Class 3, Step 4. Effective: 11/01/05.
- Ann Sandner, Speech Pathologist (#202023) (20% Time), Speech Services, Restricted Special Education Speech and Hearing Credential; BA + 46/MA + 25 1/2; Class 3, Step 10. Effective: 10/19/05.

#### CERTIFICATED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Kathleen White, Counselor, Cordova High School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 01/04/05 through 06/07/05.

#### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE routine personnel items  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Yuliya Kubay (replacement) Food Service Worker I (#201401), Sutter Middle, 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL05/Step A. Effective: 10/21/05
- Vernita Murray (replacement) Relief Bus Driver (#204563), Transportation Dept., 4 hours daily/9.5 months, Range TR16/Step B. Effective: 10/27/05
- Kellie Palhegyi (replacement) Food Service Worker I (#991361), Folsom High, 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL05/Step A. Effective: 10/19/05
- Cathy Small (new position/replacement FTE) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#206619), Oak Chan Elem., 5.5 hours daily/9.5 months. Effective: 10/24/05 (revised location and date)
- Glenda Tofsrud (new position) School Clerk-Secondary (#206081), Cordova High, 3.5 hours daily/9.75 months, Range CL12/Step D. Effective: 10/17/05
- Helaine Uhlig (replacement) SIP Parent/Assistant Coordinator (#202575), Empire Oaks Elem., 3.9 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 8/26/05
- Pei “Cynthia” Wang (replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#206612), 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/21/05

#### CLASSIFIED UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Diana Grabchuk, Special Education Instructional Assistant (#203299), Cordova Meadows, reason: education. Effective: 10/14/05 through 6/1/06
- Lalanina Lind, Bus Driver (#206597), Transportation Dept., reason: medical. Effective: 9/19/05 through 3/19/06

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

- Karen Johnson, School Clerk-Elementary (#203017), Empire Oaks Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 11/8/05
- Barbara Lipnosky, Administrative Assistant III (#990947), Special Education Dept., reason: other employment Effective: 11/3/05
- James Neal, Computer Instructional Assistant (#203101), Riverview Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 10/13/05

#### BOARD PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT

President Shaw asked Superintendent Godwin to introduce the special presentation.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **Folsom High School Art Gallery – Chris Gilbert**

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos introduced Folsom High School art teacher Christine Gilbert. Ms. Gilbert explained that fellow teacher Lori Emmington received a grant to help with the cost of the student art gallery. The grant has paid for the lighting and gallery set up. The gallery is open throughout the year, and seven Folsom High seniors have decided to be curators of the gallery as their senior project. As curators, they are each responsible for selecting, matting, framing, and displaying the artwork in their own gallery, along with organizing a reception for their opening. Ms. Gilbert thanked Folsom High School Principal Paul Richards for his support of this project.

Trustees thanked the students and expressed how impressed they were with the projects, artwork, and the professional quality of the gallery.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **Curriculum & Lesson Research - Barbara Brydon, Heidi Painter, Kristy Guarienti, Jennine Robb, & Ann Royston**

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos explained that this is a teacher research project in connection with the National Science Foundation and UC Davis. She introduced Folsom High School science teacher Barbara Brydon.

Ms. Brydon said that this is the second year of the three-year Collaborative Classroom-Based Inquiry Project (CCBI) Grant. The purpose of the grant is to work on improving math and science instruction, not just K-12, but primarily at the university level. The grant was awarded to UC Davis, and several school districts were invited to form their own teams to participate. FCUSD's team includes mentor teacher Kristi Guarienti, classroom teachers Barbara Brydon, Ann Royston, Jennine Robb, and Heidi Painter (Ms. Painter also serves as a teacher research facilitator), graduate student Hasan Palandoken, and undergraduate student Justine Ma.

The question they worked on last year was, "What effect do labs or hands-on experiences have on student learning of science content?" She explained the processes they went through and said that when data gathering and analysis was finished, it reaffirmed their commitment to using labs as a means to teaching science concepts.

Research this year is on, "What prerequisite knowledge do students need in order to have a proficient or above understanding of complex science phenomena?"

Trustees thanked the members of the team for their work on this project.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

SHORT/STANLEY MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (0506-104)**

### **Cindy Evans, District counselor**

Reported on what counselors are doing around the District.

- High school counselors are doing 9<sup>th</sup> grade classroom visits and conferences. They will attend and ed-fund workshop on financial aid tomorrow.
- Sutter Middle School counselors worked with 45 students to be trained in the Safe Ambassadors Program.

Jan Lucas, Director Special Ed

- Reported that the Early Mental Health Initiative Grant was awarded to the District. Out of a possible score of 100, with 80 being very good, our grant application scored 92. The money will fund Sandra J. Gallardo and Gold Ridge and will continue funding for the program at Blanche Sprentz.

**REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS (0506-105)**

Student Advisory Board – Student Board Member Maria Huseinbhai reported on the following:

- No meeting since the last board meeting.

PTA/PTO Council – President Laura Ruby

- No report

California School Employees Association – President Pat Wilhoyte

- No report

Folsom Cordova Education Association – President Barbara Brydon

- Encouraged everyone to be well-informed on the issues and get out and vote.

Folsom Cordova Administrators Association – President Judy Cutright

- Reported on Red Ribbon Week activities in the district, which included the landing of a Black Hawk helicopter at Sandra J. Gallardo. A penny collection at Empire Oaks resulted in \$1,424.28 being collected; 30,000 pennies were from a kindergarten student.
- Classified staff development program is providing training for library aides, yard duty personnel, and student care supervisors. Administrative Assistant training is being planned for November.
- Reported on other activities at both elementary and secondary schools.

**AGENDA CONSTENT ITEMS**

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0506-106 - Administrative Matters**

A. Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes - October 20, 2005

**0506-107 – Business Matters**

A. Accept Donations: To Acknowledge Receipt of Donations to the District

B. Adopt Resolution No. 11-03-05-21: Resolution of Intent to Grant Easements at Vista del Lago High School

C. Approve State Inspector Contract for Vista del Lago High School

**0506-108 – Instructional Matters**

A. Expulsion Panel Recommendations: Case Numbers: 0506-13, 0506-15, 0506-16, and 0506-17

0506-13

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to successfully complete at least one semester at the Mather Youth Academy in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program of the FCUSD; 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.

0506-15

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to attend the Sacramento County Community School or any accredited educational program outside of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; 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 FCUSD; individual student counseling to address anger management and decision-making skills.

0506-16

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Kinney High School through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; individual student counseling to address anger management and decision-making skills.

0506-17

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to seek educational options through district of residence (Coalinga-Huron Joint Unified School District) through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; if student re-establishes residency with parent within the boundaries of FCUSD; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the spring semester of the 2005-2006 academic year; student is to successfully complete at least one semester 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.

- 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 Inter-SELPA Agreement

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**

**0506-109 - Revise Student Conduct Code Section VI, Level 3 Offenses, #4 – Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos explained that this item was being brought back from the last Board meeting. The new revision proposes that ‘Under the Influence of alcohol or an intoxicant of any kind’ may result in action other than recommendation for expulsion. Attorneys for the District suggested that by not expelling for the first offense, principals have more leeway in making their decision. This offense would be changed to a Level Two offense.

Trustees still questioned why the drug Soma was singled out. Ms. DeArcos explained that as she understands it, Soma is not a controlled substance; however, when used with Vicodin, it has the same effect as using heroin.

MYERS/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE the changes to the Student Conduct Code, Section VI, Level 3 Offenses, #4 – Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances as recommended by staff.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0506-110 - Naming of Empire Ranch Elementary School #2**

Superintendent Godwin introduced Deputy Superintendent Debbie Bettencourt. Ms. Bettencourt referred Trustees to the list of names included in the agenda item. The names were compiled by the

original naming committee. She indicated that Lake View and Ridge Crest would be representative of the school's geographic location, and I.M. Sibley and Hazel McFarland would be representative of Folsom's history. Other suggestions were Alder Creek, Russell Ranch, and Terrace Ridge. Staff is open to suggestions from the Board.

Ms. McCormick

- Feels that Lake View would be too redundant since we already have Vista del Lago.

Mr. Short

- Asked if there was input from the community (as was done with Rancho Cordova during the naming of their last two schools).

Ms. Bettencourt

- Answered no, that hasn't been done, but there are residents in that area now, and we could ask them for input.

Ms. Myers

- Has been to the site, and there is a remarkable view of the lake. Has no problem with Lake View. Prefers geographical names to names of people.

Mr. Short

- There is a Lake View Elementary in El Dorado Hills.

Mr. Shaw

- Would like to push for Granite. It was the first elementary school in Folsom.

Ms. Stanley

- Doesn't like Lake View. Appears we have no imagination since we already have Vista del Lago.
- Ridge Crest reminds her of Gold Ridge.
- McFarland already has a park and a street.
- Likes I.M. Sibley since she was the first teacher in Folsom.
- Not fond of Granite since we still have Granite Center.
- Is not opposed to community input.
- When talking earlier with former board member Roger Benton, she was reminded that he had asked to have former superintendent Norman Siefkin's name added to the list. She would like to suggest it be added.

Mr. Shaw

- Would like to see the same procedure done here that was done in Rancho, namely, go to *The Telegraph* newspaper with a short list of names and let the community have a say.

Mr. Short

- Would like to get a feel for what the community wants, and also thinks Norman Siefkin should be added to the list.

Ms. Myers

- Would prefer I.M. Sibley not be on the list sent to *The Telegraph*.

Mr. Shaw suggested each member of the Board pick a name to be submitted for community review. After discussion, Trustees decided to go forward with the following names:

- Salmon Falls
- I.M. Sibley
- Russell Ranch
- Granite
- Norman R. Siefkin

Item tabled until a later meeting after community input is received.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **0506-111 – Proposed Dates, Times, and Places of Regular Board Meetings for January 2006 – December 2006**

Board members will review and take action in December to set 2006 dates.

### **0506-112 – 2005 Academic Performance Index (API) Growth Report**

Superintendent Godwin introduced Director of Testing and Assessment Bob Mange.

Mr. Mange reported:

- District and all significant subgroups met growth requirements (6<sup>th</sup> year in a row).
- Twenty-two of our 25 comprehensive schools maintained 800+ or grew (up from 19 a year ago).
- Nineteen of 25 comprehensive schools have reached or exceeded subgroup targets (up from 16 a year ago).
- The largest growth is in our Asian subgroup and second largest in our socio-economically disadvantaged subgroup.
- Twelve of our 25 comprehensive schools have scored 800 or above, indicating a High Performance School.
- Four schools are 900 or above (up from 3 last year). Four more are on the verge of becoming 900 or better.

#### Mr. Short

- Noticed that Cordova Gardens has gone down again, any reason?

#### Mr. Mange

- As grade levels come and go, it can have a major impact on scores. Second graders from two years ago did much better than 2<sup>nd</sup> graders this time. Outgoing 6<sup>th</sup> graders did better than this year's 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The large differences in those two grade levels made a difference in scores. Demographics do impact scores.

#### Mr. Short

- The Hispanic subgroups in Cordova Meadows and Mills Middle are in the negative.

#### Mr. Mange

- The longer students are with us, the higher their scores are. Mobility makes a difference. Those 117 students were brand new to us this year. Only 15% of the student population makes up a subgroup, so it doesn't take many students to impact a subgroup.

#### Mr. Mange

- Feels that when you look at other schools and districts, the fact that our Board has stood firm on neighborhood elementary schools is one big reason why our scores continue to be outstanding.

Mr. Shaw

- The critical question is how can we continue to improve? We need to look at how instruction is delivered from classroom to classroom.

**REPORTS**

**0506-113 – Reports to the Board of Education**

Superintendent Godwin

- Mentioned we had a joint principals meeting on Wednesday, with some of the management team in attendance. He continues to be impressed with the commitment, creativity, and intelligence of the group. We have some big challenges facing us as a district, including the attendance boundary study in Folsom, with Rancho Cordova coming up soon; the SunRidge issue with Elk Grove sometime in January; the ongoing high school improvement report in March or April; growth issues; bonds; and two new high school principals next year. He thanks heaven for all the talent we have in this district.

B. Correspondence to the Board - None

C. District Committees - None

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**0506-114 – Board Business**

A. Board Communication

Ms. Huseinbhai

- Liked the art gallery and appreciates all the work the kids have done. Is grateful for the teacher research grant. Students will benefit.
- Is excited to see which school names will be selected.

Ms. McCormick

- Attended the Wellness Policy Committee meeting. Parents, community members, and District personnel are included and provide a lot of input and good suggestions.
- Attended her first PTA administrators' social. It was nice to meet people and see the well deserved awards given to all the volunteers.
- Also attended Romeo & Juliet, the contemporary version. It was very good.
- Attended the mural dedication at Cordova Meadows. Students were involved in coming up with the idea and did some of the painting. Very reflective of the multicultural community.
- Visited the Folsom Hills foreign language program. Students were eager and excited about the program. Is looking forward to their presentation to the Board.
- The boundary change meeting was interesting. The community seems to be accepting and responsive. Glad to hear one of the community members commending Ms. Bettencourt and her staff for all the work that's been done.

Ms. Myers

- Was impressed with the art gallery. The concept of student curators is a great idea.
- The math and science grant was very demonstrative of the quality of teachers we have in the district. Was impressed by the dedication, attention to detail, and implications that it holds for all of us.
- Happy we got the EMHI grant. It's very important and crucial to the well-being of our neediest children.

- The API report just gets better and better. Twenty-two out of 25 schools in high performance level; how does it get any better?
- Saw that Elk Grove's student population is dropping. May have a profound impact on our discussions about the SunRidge territory.
- Regrets missing the administrators' social. She was in the hospital, but is fine now.

#### Ms. Stanley

- Enjoys Cindy Evans' reports on the district counselors.
- Enjoyed the gallery presentation and research project. Reminds her of all the things going on in the district we don't always hear about.
- The EMHI grant shows the quality of the staff in our district. A score of 92 out of 100 is great.
- She saw an EdSource study that looked at districts that better serve students. The different things they listed are being done in our district, such as instructional consistency, curricular alignment from grade-to-grade, classroom instruction guided by state academic standards, and district leadership that sets clear expectations, among other things.
- Attended the boundary forum. The open dialogue was interesting. Parents felt comfortable being able to shout out questions and get immediate feedback.
- She also enjoyed Romeo & Juliet.
- The administrators' social was great. Congratulations to Laura Ruby for her volunteer award.
- A Board retreat was held on October 29. It went very well, and she thanked Mr. Shaw for keeping them on track with the agenda. Valuable things came out of that meeting.

#### Mr. Short

- Enjoyed the art gallery; it's a class act.
- API scores were excellent.
- The teacher research grant is interesting and exciting.
- Would like to see something about the work force, work ready certificate on a future agenda.
- Recapped what was discussed at the Rancho Cordova 2x2 meeting held today. Feels these meetings are a very positive thing.

#### Mr. Shaw

- Attended a tech conference in Denver. Is very excited about what he heard. It formalizes what he suspected...technology needs to be insinuated throughout everything we do. Excited about a computer program that has students using a sending device to respond to questions in the teacher's presentation. There is instant evaluation. Wireless technology replaces the concept of dedicated computer labs. Pretty exciting stuff.
- Tonight's presentations were great.
- There was a good article in the *Folsom Life* paper about Sutter Middle School Vice Principal Steve Howe and his efforts to aid the animal victims of Hurricane Katrina. He actually went to New Orleans to help out.

#### B. Pending Board Requests

Bob Mange, Director of Staff Development and Assessment, wanted to clarify something with the Board. Referring back to bullet #3 of the API growth report, 12 of our schools were 800 or above, and 10 more showed growth. Twenty-two maintained 800, or grew in API scores.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

**INFORMATION**

**0506-115 – Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Folsom**

**0506-116 – Project ASSIST Grant, Year Two**

**0506-117 – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2005, at Mills Middle School, 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA, 95670.**

Record of meeting schedule for November 3, 2005:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:07 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	8:18 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick Godwin, Executive Secretary to the Board

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Ed Short, Clerk of the Board