

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

October 18, 2007

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teresa A. Stanley, President
Richard Shaw, Vice President
Mary McCormick, Clerk
Ed Short, Member
Roger Benton, Member
Kelli Davis, Student Board Member

October 18, 2007

Board members present: Teresa Stanley, Richard Shaw, Mary McCormick, Ed Short, Roger Benton, and Student Kelli Davis

5:30 p.m. – Open Session

CALL TO ORDER (Held in Room 6)

President Stanley announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:35 p.m. – Closed Session

(Held in Room 6)

6:00 p.m. – Open Meeting

(Held in Cafetorium)

Meeting convened at 6:10 p.m. President Stanley called the meeting to order. Rancho Cordova Elementary School teacher Amy DeOliviera led the flag salute.

REPORTING OUT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

Assistant Superintendent Lawrence Brubaker reported out on routine action taken in closed session regarding certificated and classified personnel.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Approved in Closed Session)

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

BENTON/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE routine certificated personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CERTIFICATED APPOINTMENT

The following employee has been appointed Department Chair for the 2007/2008 school year:

- Denise Sheppard (#200059), Cordova Gardens Elementary School. Effective: 09/17/07

CERTIFICATED CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT

- Carole Cline, Teacher (#208142), Cordova High School. From: 100%; To: 120%. Effective: 08/13/07 through 12/19/07.
- Mary Holl, Teacher (#204017, #200236), Sandra J. Gallardo Elementary School. From: 100% Teacher; To: 60% Teacher/40% Teaching Vice Principal. Effective: 09/24/07.
- Kristina Kraushar, Teacher (#208142), Cordova High School. From: 100%; To: 120%. Effective: 08/13/07 through 12/19/07.

- Perry Mansch, Teacher (#208142), Cordova High School. From: 100%; To: 120%. Effective: 08/13/07 through 12/19/07.
- Erin Muse, Teacher (#991939). From: 80% Teacher/20% Title 1 Teacher, Mills Middle School; To: 100% Teacher Cordova High School. Effective: 10/08/07.
- Anthony Ruiz, Teacher (#208142), Cordova High School. From: 100%; To: 120%. Effective: 08/13/07 through 12/19/07.

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Nicole Scriven, Speech Pathologist (#207624) 40% Time, Speech Services. Nicole was hired on August 2, 2007, and has been employed 1 month with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 08/31/07.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

McCORMICK/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Teri Bowling (replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#206663), Folsom Hills Elem., 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/1/07
- Suzzette Higgins (replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#205014), Sutter Middle, 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/15/2007
- Deborah Keesling (new position) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208243), Vista del Lago High, 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step C. Effective: 10/8/2007
- Doris Korman (replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#205090), Empire Oaks Elem., 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/1/2007
- Bobby Landfair (replacement) Custodian (#202613), Mather Heights Elem., 8 hours daily/12 months, Range CL14/Step A. Effective: 10/10/2007
- Celia Lopez (replacement) Health Assistant (#203122), Mitchell Middle, 3 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 9/1/2007
- Lucas Norman (new position) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208247), 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/4/2007
- Ana Norwood (new position) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208271), 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step A. Effective: 10/9/2007
- Mary Ramirez (replacement) Food Service Worker I (#204561), Mills Middle, 3.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL05/Step A. Effective: 9/28/2007
- Mary Slater (replacement) Student Care Associate Supervisor (#207061), S. J. Gallardo Elem., 5.5 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step E. Effective: 10/8/2007
- Padmaja Teegavarapu (new position) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208564), Russell Ranch Elem., 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL11/Step C. Effective: 10/8/2007

CLASSIFIED REASSIGNMENT

- Sylvia Grace (new position) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208251) from Rancho Cordova Elem., 5.5 hours daily to Cordova Villa Elem., 6 hours daily. Effective: 10/1/2007
- Yelena Melyuukh (hours increase) Custodian (#208270), Mitchell Middle, from 6 hours daily to 8 hours daily. Effective: 10/1/2007
- Noli Mora (hours increase/replacement) STARS Team Leader (#208561), from 3.9 hours daily to 6 hours daily. Effective: 9/26/2007
- Terry Neal (hours increase/replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208562), S. J. Gallardo Elem., from 5.5 hours daily to 6 hours daily. Effective: 9/26/2007

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Tammy Chan, Student Care Center Assistant (#202500), Natoma Station Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 9/24/2007
- Geraldine Folk, Computer Instructional Assistant (#205097-Temporary), Empire Oaks Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 10/12/2007

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

President Stanley noted there would be no special presentation this evening.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SHORT/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

0708-080 – Public Participation

Pat Casey – Cordova High School teacher

- Thanked the Board and superintendent for the attendance letter that is sent to families each year. He doesn't feel it has made a difference with respect to his position. Feels we need to provide more incentives for good attendance. Mentioned Board Policy 5121, Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement, which states that a student's grades may be lowered if he/she has too many unexcused absences. Thinks it's draconian and not enforced, but something needs to be done.

Lance Sota and Zach Talbotts - Placerville residents

- Informed the Board of a teen dance club, called Klub Kaos, that they put on once a month at the Folsom Community Center. The dances are from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and high schools are invited to attend individually. Mr. Sota assured the Board that the dances are safe and secure. Teens are searched for drugs or alcohol before entrance, and the club has their own security force as well as assistance from the Folsom Police Department.

Ms. Stanley asked if this event was billed as being affiliated with the District.

Mr. Godwin expanded on that question by saying that parents will automatically make the assumption that this is a school-sponsored event. He requested that, in advertising the dances, the sponsors say that it is a private enterprise and is not affiliated with FCUSD. He also made some suggestions regarding safety:

- Encouraged Mr. Sota and Mr. Talbotts to require school ID's with pictures; he has heard that some students attempt to use report cards as identification.
- Indicated that, even though drug searches are being made, there are drugs out there that are very difficult to detect. They need to be very careful about all illegal substances and not concentrate mostly on alcohol.
- Suggested a no in/out policy.
- On a positive note, said it is nice for young people to have someplace to go for entertainment if it's a safe environment.

Blaine White – District counselor

- Counselors are in the process of drafting recommendations regarding scheduling and credit issues for students who transfer between a traditional schedule and the 4x4 block schedule schools.
- Reported on the continuous improvement of site-based student support services.
- Reported on the Group Parent Conference Night at Sutter Middle School and the annual College Night at Folsom High School. Thanked the Folsom High PTSA for their support.

Zoeann Lee – Chair, Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC)

- Updated the Board on the progress of SEPAC.
- Requested that their SEPAC report be added to the agenda under either "Reports of District Organizations" or "District Committees."
- Indicated there may be a "strong potential for conflict of interest" between an ABA provider, Learning Solutions, and the autism director and behavior specialist at Russell Ranch Elementary School. Requested the District investigate the situation and supply written notification of the results within 30 days.

Ms. Stanley

- Responded that there are six or more parent advisory committees in the District and having them all on the agenda would take a lot of time. Suggested Ms. Lee report to the Board during public participation as does Mr. White with his counseling report.
- Indicated the Board would find the appropriate staff member to review and investigate the allegation that there may be a conflict of interest at Russell Ranch. Asked, for privacy reasons, that in the future, Ms. Lee not use employees' names during a report.

0708-081 – REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

Student Advisory Board: Kelli Davis

- The second SAB meeting was held yesterday, and it was very productive. Ms. Bettencourt was the guest speaker and reviewed financial issues and how the student body funds were split between Folsom High School and Vista del Lago High School. They also briefly discussed areas of student concern.
- Dr. Kelly Calhoun will be a future guest speaker and will demonstrate the Smart Boards. Next meeting is on November 14 at Folsom High School.
- Reported on happenings at sites, including dances, Red Ribbon Week activities, homecomings, and Vista del Lago's "Up and Coming."

PTA/PTO Council:

Mr. Benton reported:

- They are going through back-to-school nights. Fundraisers are kicking in. Schools are doing a great job.
- The admin social was very nice. Many deserving folks received the George Becker award. Appreciates the volunteers and all the time they donate.

California School Employees Association: President Dyarl Abdo:

- No report.

Folsom Cordova Education Association: President Barbara Brydon:

- Mark Schultz with FCEA indicated he had no report this evening.

Folsom Cordova Administrators Association – President Denise Burns:

Reported on:

- Efforts by Cordova High School and Child Welfare and Attendance Officer Joseph Piazza to get students to school.
- Modernizations in the District, including installation of Smart Boards in Rancho Cordova schools.
- Activities involving the STARS after-school program.

AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS

BENTON/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items with the exception of Item 0708-083 D

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including advisory

0708-082- Administrative Matters

A. Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2007

0708-083 – Business Matters

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

- B. Warrants and Payroll: Monthly Ratification
- C. Approve Budget Revisions: General Fund and Other Funds
- D. See below.
- E. Approve Easement Agreement – Clearwire US LLC at Cordova High School

0708-083 D – Approve Position Description: Fiscal Accountant

Mr. Godwin said this position was originally brought as a classified position, but in conversations with CSEA, they would prefer that it be a confidential position rather than a classified position.

BENTON/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE the position description of Fiscal Accountant with the change that it be a confidential position.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

0708-084 – Instructional Matters

A. Expulsion Panel Recommendations: Case Numbers: 0708-11(S), 0708-12(S), and 0708-13(S)
0708-11(S)

Expel through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2007-2008 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Mather Youth Middle Academy through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2007-2008 academic year; student must successfully complete at least two trimesters at the Mather Youth Middle Academy in order to be considered for return to a comprehensive program of the FCUSD; individual counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills.

0708-12(S)

Expel through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2007-2008 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Cordova Villa Elementary School through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2007-2008 academic year; individual counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills.

0708-13(S)

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2007-2008 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend an Adult Education Program through the end of the spring semester of the 2007-2008 academic year; student will not be returning to a regular comprehensive program within FCUSD to complete his graduation requirements.

DISCUSSION

0708-085 – First Reading – New and Revised Federal and State Mandated Board Policies and Administrative Regulations: 0000 Series and 4000 Series

Mr. Godwin introduced Assistant Superintendent Human Resources Larry Brubaker.

Mr. Brubaker explained that the state and federal governments mandate specific policies or specific language to be included in policies that must be a part of the District program and posted on the District's website. A couple of policies in the 0000 series and several in the 4000 series have not been updated and posted in as many as 25 years. It is his goal to make sure these policies, that are required by law, are updated and revised and posted to the website. Wants to deal with mandated policies/language first, and then will bring the rest to the Board at later dates. Did not show edits or redactions because the majority of the policies required so many revisions that to start editing would have been more confusing to all. If there are specifics that the Board would like to see when the item comes back for adoption, he will be happy to bring copies of the original policies/administrative regulations.

Mr. Godwin

- Wanted to clarify that the policies have been shared with both FCEA and CSEA and have their approval.

Mr. Short

- Since some of these haven't been updated in many years, what have we been doing with old policies, have we been complying?

Mr. Brubaker

- Yes, we have, but we also had education code to follow, which would take precedence.

Ms. McCormick

- Asked about the policy on dismissal of employees and if any changes were as a result of bargaining.

Mr. Brubaker

- When we dismissed a management employee earlier this year, we discovered that we needed to update some of our policies to protect the rights of employees and the District as well.

Ms. Stanley

- There are so many citations in all of these. Is there anything other than “we will follow the law”? Is there any discretionary or flexible nature to any of these policies?
 - Mr. Brubaker responded that these specific policies are pretty much black and white – follow the law. The next group will have some flexibility and may be more unique to FCUSD than these.
- Requested a copy of the old policies/regulations to see what the changes were. Said, that as a Board, setting policies is their number one job, and she takes it seriously. Asked to be invited to look at policies to be updated in the future.
- Noticed that these do not include new legislation, so some of them will be changed with the passage of SB777.
 - Mr. Brubaker responded that there is about a three month lag time between CSBA recommended policy and when legislation is passed. Anything more recent would not be reflected.
- In the sexual harassment policy (BP 4006), it says that complaints for sexual harassment are filed as complaints concerning discrimination in employment. That doesn’t seem like necessarily the right place for sexual harassment complaints. Employment policies are for hiring. This is confusing.
 - Mr. Godwin responded that there are two places to include sexual harassment in policy; one is directly related to District employees and job applicants. There is also a sexual harassment policy related to sexual harassment of students and others, so it comes under a separate policy section. This one talks only about employees and job applicants.
- On page 62, it says that on January 1, 2006, and every two years thereafter we have to ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other training, and she assumes that’s something we’ve been doing.
 - Mr. Brubaker responded that this was initially done two years ago. Last year we caught those who missed the first year. Director of Human Resources Cathy Runnels is trained as a provider to run that training. Will do it again this year.
- Page 70 says “sexual or sexual orientation”; they now have words about “perceived” sexual orientation. Might be new language.
- Page 86, paragraph 5, BP 4117, says that evaluations shall be used to recognize the exemplary skills and accomplishments of staff and to identify areas needing improvement. Thinks we need to put into our policy that we want to make sure we’re evaluating realistically and authentically, not just checking the boxes.
- Page 90, AR 4150, contains a paragraph about year round schools. There’s no need for that in our district; should be removed.
- Page 99, BP 4161.9, is supposedly new, but she somehow remembers discussing this before. Could it have been some kind of side letter contract issue?

- Mr. Brubaker responded that CSEA has had catastrophic leave language for the last three or four years. This last year, FCEA came to an agreement as well. Both units now have that as part of their contracts. If you have catastrophic leave in your district, you must have a policy.

Ms. Stanley asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak on this matter.

Mark Schultz asked what the timeline is from when a policy is read to when it is approved.

Mr. Godwin responded that typically it would be adopted the following meeting. He also thanked the Board for their indulgence in allowing staff to not go through the underlining/redaction/strikeout process in these policies because it can be quite laborious and cumbersome. But when presenting policies where the Board has discretion and options, we'll make sure it's clearly outlined where the Board has those options and what staff's recommendations are.

REPORTS

0708-086 – Reports to the Board of Education

A. Superintendent Godwin:

- He appreciated hearing about Folsom High School's college night; it's a tremendous activity. He had a chance to drop by Cordova High's college fair today. It was set up in their gymnasium, and a variety of colleges and employers were present. Everyone seemed very excited; it was well attended. Vendors he talked with were very pleased with the arrangements.

B. Correspondence to the Board

C. District Committees

BOARD OF EDUCATION

0708-087 – Board Business

A. Board Communication

Ms. Davis

- Nothing to report.

Ms. McCormick

- This week, she spent time with Linda Burkholder finding out what is going on with her program and the wonderful things they're doing in Family Support Services. Also visited and toured the new Folsom Cordova Community Partnership facility with Director Paul Shane.
- Had fun at 'Fall into Reading' at Natoma Station. She got to read to first and third graders.
- Enjoyed the PTA administrators' social. Nice to see people recognized for the hours and years they spend volunteering their time.

Mr. Short

- Thanked Pat Casey for addressing the Board about attendance. He mentioned a board policy that no one enforces. Thinks maybe we need to talk about ways to increase ADA. Although, he thought we did have an increase in ADA the last couple of years.

Mr. Godwin

- Said the Board may recall that last year we did employ Joseph Piazza to help improve attendance. He has done a yeoman's job. He's looking at positive reinforcements as well as consequences. One thing we need to be careful to not do is to start reducing students' grades for absences. It can

be counterproductive and there can be some legal challenges when you do that. You have to have both carrots and sticks related to attendance.

Mr. Short

- Appreciated the newsletter and report from SEPAC. Very comprehensive. Also liked hearing about the Smart Board presentations, Red Ribbon Week, etc.

Mr. Benton

- As Ms. Stanley pointed out, we do take policies and procedures very seriously because this is our job. Appreciates all the hard work Mr. Brubaker has done; it's a difficult job.
- Had a blast at the PTA admin social. Although he had to leave early because he is working nights now.

Mr. Shaw

- Volunteered at the Salmon Festival. Many educational opportunities are available there. Great opportunity to really study environmental things
- Attended the partnership breakfast yesterday. Appreciated Kelly Calhoun's demonstration of the Smart Boards. Would like to play with one sometime.

Ms. Stanley

- Received thank you notes from the two Folsom High students who attended Perspectives 2007. Appreciates them taking the time to send a note.
- Thanked the PTA Council for the administrators' social. Liked the setup this year. Instead of introducing all the administrators, the whole time was focused on the volunteers. Good way to do it.
- The partnership breakfast was nice. A wide variety of people from different organizations and associations attended. Especially enjoyed the three Cordova High teachers, Glenn Reagan, Pam Goldman, and Linda Greer. They're doing very cool things.
- Also enjoyed Fall into Reading. She read to second and third graders.
- Thanked Mr. Casey for speaking about the absence issue. Maybe it's not reflected in his classes, but school-wide attendance seems to be better.
- Reported on Walk and Bike to School Day:
 - Navigator Elementary reported 24% of their kids walked or biked to school that day.
 - Folsom Hills had 50%
 - Natoma Station had 63%
 - Sandra Gallardo had 64%
 - Russell Ranch had 67%
 - Carl Sundahl had 75%
 - Empire Oaks had 78%

The people coordinating this program are doing a wonderful job.

B. Pending Board Requests

C. District Committees

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

INFORMATION

0708-088 – 2007 SAT Scores: Cordova and Folsom High Schools

0708-089– Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Rancho Cordova

0708-090 – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2007, at Folsom High School, 1655 Iron Point Road, Folsom, California, 95630.

Record of meeting schedule for October 18, 2007:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:10 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Godwin, Executive Secretary to the Board

Mary McCormick, Clerk of the Board