

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

April 24, 2008

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

April 24, 2008

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

5:00 p.m. – Open Session

CALL TO ORDER (Held in Room 6)

President Benton announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:05 p.m. – Closed Session

(Held in Room 6)

6:00 p.m. – Open Meeting

(Held in Cafetorium)

Meeting convened at 6:09 p.m. President Benton called the meeting to order. Cordova High School student Alexandria Rutz 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.

He also read a short bio on Twila Buffalo, Due Process Technician, who will retire with 15 years of service to the District.

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

**CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

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

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

- Heather Bendinelli, Title 1 Teacher (#990173) (from Leave of Absence), Cordova Villa Elementary School. Heather was hired on August 24, 1999, and has been employed 9 years with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 05/30/08.

**CERTIFICATED VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN ASSIGNMENT**

- Tammy Eckhardt, Teacher (#206011), Mather Heights Elementary School. From: 100%; To: 50%. Effective: 12/20/08.

- Anne Jones, Speech Pathologist (#991990), Speech Services. From: 100%; To: 70%. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Lauren Spitz, Speech Pathologist (#991993), Speech Services. From: 100%; To: 80%. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.

#### CERTIFICATED LEAVE OF ABSENCES

- Jennifer Bloom, Teacher (#990447), Cordova Lane Elementary School, 50% Parental/Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Joelle Bobrowsky, Speech Pathologist (#992004, #208530), 40% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Kelly Boske, Teacher (#991898), Cordova High School, 40% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Laurel Christen, Teacher (#990512), White Rock Elementary School, 100% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Erica Davis, Teacher (#991863), Cordova High School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 08/07/08 through 10/10/08. 40% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 10/13/08 through 05/29/09.
- Tammy Eckhardt, Teacher (#206011), Mather Heights Elementary School, 50% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 08/07/08 through 12/19/08.
- Mary Garrido, Teacher (#206002), Empire Oaks Elementary School, 100% Medical Leave of Absence. Effective: 04/24/08 through 05/29/08.
- Lisa Knoles, Teacher (#991811), Folsom High School, 100% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Michelle Maddux, Teacher (#990553), Williamson Elementary School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Suemi Oxford, Teacher (#990285), Cordova Gardens Elementary School, 30% (80% Contract) Parental/Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Marie Pawlek, Teacher (#990504), White Rock Elementary School, 100% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Susan Smith, Teacher (#990506), White Rock Elementary School, 100% Parental Leave of Absence. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.
- Rick Spring, Teacher (#201334), Blanche Sprentz Elementary School, 100% Personal Leave of Absence. Effective: 08/07/08 through 03/20/09.

#### CERTIFICATED CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT

- Julianne Thompson, Teacher (#990223), Natoma Station Elementary School. From: 50%; To: 60%. Effective: 2008/2009 school year.

#### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

SHAW/McCORMICK MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

- Nkebre Edet (replacement) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#201371), Mitchell Middle, 6 hours daily/9.5 months, Range CL10/Step D. Effective: 4/14/2008

#### CLASSIFIED REASSIGNMENT

- Tammie Andres (replacement) Cordova High, from Campus Monitor, 3.9 hours daily, Range CL09/Step B to Special Education Instructional Assistant (#990868), 6.5 hours daily, Range CL12/Step C. Effective: 4/7/2008
- Karen Harrell (voluntary decrease) Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208117), Russell Ranch Elem., from 6 hours daily to 5.5 hours daily. Effective: 8/13/2007
- Rashmi Taranath (replacement) Russell Ranch Elem., from Library Clerk, 2.5 hours daily to Special Education Instructional Assistant (#208539), 6 hours daily. Effective: 4/14/2008

#### CLASSIFIED UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Mindy Dyce, Administrative Assistant III (#206662)/Help Desk Technician (#201318), ETIS Department, reason: parental. Effective: 4/1/2008 through 3/31/2009 (50% LOA))

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

- Beatriz Maldonado, Preschool Instructional Assistant (#207084), Cordova Villa Elem., reason: personal. Effective: 4/25/2008
- Leah Rodemeyer, Administrative Assistant-Elementary (#990972), Rancho Cordova Elem., reason: relocation. Effective: 5/29/2008

#### CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT

- Twila Buffalo, Due Process Technician (#990644), Attendance & Due Process Dept. Effective: 7/31/2008  
Twila was hired as a Clerk Typist II at the Attendance & Due Process office on March 1, 1993. In February of 2000, she became the Administrative Assistant II for that office. She became the Due Process Technician on October 1, 2001. Twila will retire with fifteen years of service to the District.

#### BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

President Benton announced that many people wish to speak tonight, and in view of the numbers, each speaker will be limited to two minutes.

He asked Superintendent Godwin to introduce the special presentation.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

##### **Youth Development and Student Transitions – David Chun, Lea Rathbun, Jill Shaffer**

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos introduced Lead Teacher David Chun. Mr. Chun spoke about the 9<sup>th</sup> grade transitions committee, a group of educators, students, and community partners whose purpose is to look at the success of students and build a culture where failure is not an option.

Teacher Jill Shaffer talked about the Success 101 class and explained the 12 standards on which the class is built. Students work on answering the questions: Who am I? What do I want? How do I go about getting what I want?

Counselor Lea Rathbun spoke on the leadership team comprised of a community partner, two adults, and two youth. Their goals include youth engagement and youth development.

Cordova High School students Alexandria Rutz and Mark Zinkel, with the help of VISTA Volunteer Brandon Hudson, explained the five parts of the youth development tower: safety, relationship building, youth participation, community involvement, and skill building.

Trustees thanked everyone for the presentation saying that they are impressed with the depth and enormity of what the group is involved in. They congratulated students on their contributions and said they appreciated the students who take a leadership position and step up to involve everyone in the activities.

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

STANLEY/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 0708-227 – Public Participation

Zoeann Lee, District parent

- Addressed the Board on the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC). They are having their first annual SEPAC Excellence in Education awards night to be held on May 13 at Natoma Station Elementary School, at 7:00 p.m. Teachers Karla Jones, Jessica Kahn, Kei Lucas, and Elizabeth Shepherd, and Instructional Assistant Ana Norwood will receive awards.

Aracelly Canun, FHS Career Tech

- Invited all to the Folsom High School Cum Laude awards night on May 20, 7:00 p.m., in the Jill Solberg Theater. Would be happy to share information about the services career center techs offer students.

Mary Ann Delleney, Health Services Coordinator

- Announced that FCUSD received a Healthy Environments Award from the Sacramento County Childhood Obesity Coalition on April 17. She thanked the Board for the support they give on health and wellness issues in the District.

Blaine White, District counselor

- Updated the Board on activities and programs involving counseling at secondary schools in the District.

Cindy Evans, CHS Counselor

- Cordova High School counselors Ms. Evans, Eric Mejia, Kitty White, Nikka Vaughan, and Mark Levy introduced themselves to the Board and spoke about some of the things the CHS counseling department is involved in. Counselor Margie Kamatsu was not able to be there.

Debbie Jeffrey (instructional assistant & club advisor) and Mitchell Middle School students Nimisha Kumar, and Savannah Werner

- Addressed the Board on Mitchell Middle School's Club Live, an environmental community service project that they completed this year.

**0708-228 – REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS**

Student Advisory Board: Kelli Davis

- The next SAB meeting will be held on May 21 at Vista del Lago High School.

PTA Council:

- Assistant Superintendent Leslie Faust said at the last meeting, Brandon Hudson, Youth Development VISTA Volunteer with FCUSD Family Support Services, spoke to them about youth development. He is very articulate and caring.

California School Employees Association: President Dyarl Abdo

- Addressed the Board on economic uncertainties and the reserve fund line items in the budget and the list of positions to be eliminated due to budget reductions. Also spoke on changes to the transportation Board policies and administrative regulations on the agenda.

Folsom Cordova Education Association: President Mark Schultz

- Talked about STAR test results for English/language arts students and the fact that FCUSD is #1 in grades one through eleven. FCUSD has the highest number of students mastering standards in this county. Wonders if we can stay #1 with proposed cuts.

Folsom Cordova Administrators Association: President Denise Burns

- No report.

**AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS**

STANLEY/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **0708-229 - Administrative Matters**

A. Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2008

## **0708-230– Business Matters**

- A. Accept Donations: To Acknowledge Receipt of Donations to the District
- B. Approve Change Order 19: Vista del Lago High School, Phase 1
- C. Approve Change Order 10A: Vista del Lago High School, Phase 2
- D. Approve Notice of Completion: Vista del Lago High School Phase 1, Various Trade Contractors
- E. Approve Lease-Leaseback Agreement: Rancho Cordova Elementary School
- F. Approve Revised 2006-07 Discretionary Site Block Grant Expenditure Plan: Mills Middle School
- G. Approve Change of District Computer Purchasing Standard

## **0708-231 – Instructional Matters**

A. Expulsion Panel Recommendations: Case Numbers: 0708-85(S), 0708-86(S), 0708-87(S), 0708-88(S), 0708-89(S), 0708-90(S), 0708-91(S), 0708-92(S), 0708-93(S), and 0708-94(S)

### 0708-85(S)

Expel through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2008-2009 academic year (March 6, 2009); student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2008-2009 academic year (includes summer session); student must successfully complete at least two semesters and summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to return to a comprehensive program in the District; individual 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.

### 0708-86(S)

Expel through the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Williamson Elementary School through the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; individual counseling to address decision-making skills.

### 0708-87(S)

Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Mills Middle School through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of the 2007-2008 academic year then transfer to Cordova High School for the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; individual counseling to address decision-making skills.

### 0708-88(S)

Expel through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2008-2009 academic year (March 6, 2009); student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2008-2009 academic year (includes summer session); student must successfully complete at least two semesters and summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to return to a comprehensive program in the District; individual 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.

### 0708-89(S)

Expel through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Mather Youth Middle Academy through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year (includes summer session); student must successfully complete at least two trimesters and summer session at the Mather Youth Middle Academy in order to return to a comprehensive program in the District; individual counseling to address fire safety and decision-making skills.

### 0708-90(S)

Expel through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Riverview Elementary School through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills.

### 0708-91(S)

Expel through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Cordova Meadows Elementary School through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester of the 2008-2009 academic year; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills.

### 0708-92(S)

Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year (includes summer session); student must successfully complete at least one semester and summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to return to a comprehensive program in the District; individual counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills.

### 0708-93(S)

Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; student is to attend the Mather Youth Academy through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year (includes summer session); student must successfully complete at least one semester and summer session at the Mather Youth Academy in order to return to a

comprehensive program in the District; individual counseling to address decision-making skills; restitution charges for damage and stolen items are to be paid by student's parent (school administration is to determine cost).

0708-94(S)

Expel through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; student is to seek educational options through district of residence (San Juan Unified School District) through the end of the fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year; if student establishes residency in FCUSD, student must 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 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. This number not used.

C. Approve Extended Educational Field Trip Request: Mills Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students to Math and Science Camp, New Brighton State Beach, CA

D. Approve New and Revised Middle and High School Course Outlines

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **0708-232 – Extension of Urgency Implementation of Statutory Development Impact Fees per Education Code Section 17620**

President Benton opened the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

No one came forward.

Public hearing closed at 7:02 p.m.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION**

#### **0708-233 – Adopt Urgency Resolution No. 04-24-08-37: Extension of Urgency Implementation of Statutory Development Impact Fees per Education Code Section 17620**

STANLEY/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT Urgency Resolution No. 04-24-08-37 to extend the urgency implementation of statutory development impact fees per Education Code Section 17620.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **0708-234 – Adopt Resolution No. 04-24-08-38: Resolution for the Reduction of Classified Personnel**

Superintendent Godwin commented that it was nice to see so many people present, but he wished it were under more enjoyable circumstances.

- He understands that the reductions will have an impact on professional and personal lives. The governor's proposed budget would result in as large a cut in one year as we've previously had to make in three years. Important to remember that nothing is final.
- He will make a presentation later in the meeting regarding the budget and invited everyone to stay.
- It is very clear that layoffs noted in this item far exceed what the actual layoffs will be, but we need flexibility. A new Republican proposal would reduce or eliminate many categorical programs. This would result in layoff of employees, so we must issue notices.
- The governor's budget revise is scheduled for May 15. Official layoff notices won't be issued until May 27, so that gives us more time to hopefully rescind some by then. He hopes it won't be as bad as it looks.
- He asked Assistant Superintendent Lawrence Brubaker to explain the item and the changes noted in the revised item.

Mr. Shaw

- Asked for clarification about the significance of the May 27 date.
- With changes in funding of categorical programs, does that mean the money would go away too?

Mr. Brubaker

- Notices must be issued 45 days before the layoffs become effective, hence the May 27 date. Layoffs would become effective July 11, 2008.

Mr. Godwin

- Doesn't have an answer about categorical funding. He's not sure the Republican proposal will see the light of day. Can't predict at this point where this is going.

Ms. McCormick

- Is very concerned about the English language learner (ELL) programs. These students need this intervention, and if we get a cut in categoricals, she fears for the students in these programs. Expressed her passion about this subject. She would like the categorical classified positions to come back without cuts.

Ms. Stanley

- Regarding Mr. Abdo's comments about reserves and economic uncertainties, there are certain limitations on these funds by state and federal law. Asked Mr. Godwin to explain.

Mr. Godwin

- He indicated this would be covered in his PowerPoint presentation later in the meeting.

Mr. Short

- Mirrored Ms. McCormick's concerns regarding ELL and bilingual assistants.
- Regarding library clerks and the change from eliminating them from elementary and secondary schools to just elementary...are we shutting doors at the elementary level?

Mr. Godwin

- Originally, we were going to reduce all library staffs, but we feel we've found a way to staff high school and middle school libraries. Not that elementary libraries are not important, but we think we can provide some services without staffing.

Becky Marquez, library technician

- Addressed the Board regarding cuts in library technicians and presented a petition signed by Folsom Middle School students to save the FMS library.

Lillian Krogman, Special Education instructional assistant

- Addressed the Board on the budget crisis and special needs students and instructional aides.

Omera Johnson, school clerk

- Addressed the Board regarding cuts in the budget, especially the IASA categorical aides.

Michelle Metaxas, administrative assistant

- Addressed the Board regarding impending classified cuts.

Dean Marshall, Special Education instructional assistant

- Addressed the Board regarding cuts to instructional assistants, in particular special education.

Bernice Anisodon, transportation technician

- Addressed the Board regarding cuts to classified personnel.

Gary Richardson

- Addressed the Board regarding cuts to classified personnel, particularly elimination of high school bus routes. Suggested petitioning the federal government to get a tax break on fuel purchases.

John Kenney, District warehouse

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel.

Rick Gonzales, locksmith

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel.

Victor Nedioglo, bus driver

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel.

Laura Smith

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel, especially special education assistants.

Lenny Harris, bus driver

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel. Suggested using reserves.

George Maldonado Reyes

- Addressed the Board regarding proposed cuts to classified personnel.

SHORT/SHAW MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 04-24-08-38 for the reduction of classified personnel.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Short

- Appreciates all of the comments from the speakers tonight and the work the classified employees do. All are important. This is very difficult.

Mr. Shaw

- Wanted to make it clear that what we're doing tonight is laying legal groundwork. We're waiting to see what the final budget will look like. No one agrees with anything on this list, but we will have to make cuts to balance the budget. At this point, the Board is not voting on people's jobs.

Ms. Stanley

- Everyone understands the necessity of the programs because they wouldn't exist in the first place if they weren't a benefit for students. Bi-lingual aids, library techs, career center clerks, bus drivers, all provide valuable services that benefit students.
- Hopes everyone will stay for the superintendent's presentation.
- Urged everyone to get involved.
- We've come up against a deadline, and we have to send out layoff notices or we can't make the cuts if they ultimately become necessary. Feels like we're between a rock and a hard place.

Ms. McCormick

- Expressed her concern for the positions on the list, some more so than others. Her big issues are intervention/prevention programs that help students. Feels a need to protect those, but understands the process we have to go through.

**0708-235 – Approve Revisions to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3250: Transportation Fees, Board Policy 3540: Transportation, and Administrative Regulation 3541: Transportation Routes and Services**

Ms. Bettencourt introduced this item. She explained that we are not required to provide transportation, so it is something for which we can charge fees. We have not had an increase in transportation fees for many years, and we need to revise them to reflect current practices. She also explained the reason for setting a minimum number of students (five) necessary to establish a bus route. Some busses have only one or two students, mainly kindergartners.

Ms. Stanley

- Clarified that the change regarding a minimum number of students is actually to an administrative regulation, which differs from a change to Board policy. New language in the administrative regulation would allow changes to be made, if necessary.

Mr. Shaw

- Noted an error on page 59, #2, under 'Routes and Bus Stops' that says "For students attending a three-year junior high school." We do not have junior high schools; we have middle schools. That needs to be corrected.

Jill Marchuk, transportation technician

- Believes the word change from "shall" to "may" on page 59 will greatly impact transportation. Feels it reflects the Board's desire to soften the availability of transportation to students. Offered some suggestions for solving the problem of too few students on busses.

Maria Bodeman, parent

- Addressed the Board on removing transportation services for high school students.

Mr. Shaw

- If we're not required by law to provide transportation, we really can't use the word "shall" because that would require us to do something we're not required to do. Is personally not in favor of cutting any transportation; it will result in lower attendance, particularly in high school. Feels we'd lose ADA and might end up losing more than we gain.

Ms. McCormick

- Agrees with Mr. Shaw. Has a real concern about kindergarten students not being transported.

Ms. Stanley

- We're talking about changes to an administrative regulation that will allow flexibility and ad hoc decision-making. We're not saying that any child who can't get to school will be tossed aside.

STANLEY/SHAW MOVED TO APPROVE revisions to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3250: Transportation Fees, Board Policy 3540: Transportation, and Administrative Regulation 3541: Transportation Routes and Services

MOTION CARRIED 4 Ayes, 1 No (McCormick)

**0708-236 – Approve Fee Increase for Home-to-School and Summer School Transportation**

Ms. Bettencourt indicated the fees would be increased by 10% and would generate \$30,000 in additional revenue.

McCORMICK/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE the fee increase for home-to-school and summer school transportation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DISCUSSION**

### **0708-237 – Potential Budget Reductions for 2008/2009**

Superintendent Godwin commented:

- The Board has not been asked to take action on any reductions. We will wait as long as we can to make any decisions.
- Reminded everyone again that the Board is committed to being transparent regarding the budget.
- Wanted to make this presentation because he believes opinions will be more valuable if folks are informed.
- This presentation is very similar to a report made to the media today at a meeting attended by County Superintendent David Gordon, Assemblymen Roger Niello, Senators Dave Cox and Darryl Steinberg, and other superintendents.
- Asked that a revised cut list be distributed to the audience and the Board. Pointed out some notable changes, including:
  - Moving the elimination of 9<sup>th</sup> grade athletics from the “likely to be recommended” list to the “still being considered” list. In its place, eliminate middle school athletics. There is less of a savings, but he feels middle school athletics can be more easily replaced with Parks and Recreation programs or intramural programs.
  - High school and middle school library staff are off the “likely” list and on the “still being considered” list. Unfortunately, elementary libraries are still on the “likely” list. The thinking is that it might be possible for teachers to manage library business in elementary schools.
  - High school counselors that were hired last year with special funds are now on the “likely” list. Knows it’s a problem, but will have to readjust priorities and responsibilities of other counselors.
  - Third grade Class Size Reduction is still on the “likely” list. At this point, it would be very difficult to move it off the list and come up with something that would cause us to balance our budget.
- Continuing to try to influence legislators. Still hoping a positive adjustment will be possible. If the state increases funding, we could remove CSR from the list.
- It may be possible to negotiate something with the associations that would allow more money for programs.
- Emphasized that nothing on the list is final until after May 15. The Board will not adopt a budget until June. We have until then to look for alternatives and work with the state on increased funding.

Mr. Godwin then conducted his presentation explaining the governor’s proposed budget, its impact on FCUSD, increased costs anticipated for 2008-09, the total expected shortfall, the fact that Prop 98 is not the problem, where California ranks in the nation in funding, where California ranks in per pupil spending, the vision for California schools, the things that are right about California’s education system, and an explanation of FCUSD’s ending balances for the last three years.

The following people addressed the Board on concerns about possible cuts to third grade Class Size Reduction:

Dolly Sood, parent

Christy Magnani, parent

Wendi Labban, parent

- Suggested smaller cuts, perhaps 24 to a class rather than 32.

Maria Bodeman, parent

Cheryl Ramage, District employee

- Asked why it was placed on the list?

Ramesh Dontha, parent

Bob Winford, teacher

Pam Sanger, parent

Mr. Shaw

- Regarding the question about smaller cuts – 24 to a class rather than 32 – people need to know that we receive funding from the state to achieve a 20-1 ratio in third grade. It's all or nothing. We can't be funded for graduated amounts; we can't play with that number.

Ms. Faust

- There is a hard cap from the state. We have to stay at 20 or below per class or we won't get additional funding.

Mr. Benton asked Deputy Superintendent Debbie Bettencourt to comment.

Ms. Bettencourt

- The state funds \$1,000 per student, but it actually costs the District \$1,500 per student. Said another way, the state kicks in \$1 million, but it costs us \$1.6 million to run the program.

Ms. Stanley

- Regarding the question about why CSR is on the list. For those who were here for the whole meeting, we've heard people talking about the risk of losing jobs and affecting families. If we take CSR off the list, the problem would be where do we find \$600,000 to replace it? More jobs would be lost and more families would be affected. It would be just shifting from one area to another.
- Her own preference would be to consider CSR at certain schools only. That would still not benefit most of the folks who are here tonight because research shows that certain demographics of students benefit from reduced class sizes. Schools with lower socio-economic groups benefit most. It would be nice to have that leeway. But, our District tends to have policies that go across the board.
- Someone mentioned earlier that we could increase HVAC ranges to have warmer classrooms in summer and colder classrooms in winter. She would like to see the dollar amount on that. Jobs would not be affected.
- Asked about the gas taxes someone else mentioned and whether we get a state credit. Given our current situation, every little bit would help.

Mr. Godwin

- Understands everyone's frustration. There's nothing good on any of the lists. But, we have to solve the problem. Best hope is that the state will come through and recognize it has to fund education. If we were funded at the national average, we would have \$20 million more dollars to spend. We need additional resources and help from the leaders of the state. This is not a problem of our creation; we're dealing with the problem handed to us.

Bob Winford

- Asked if people could be provided with a list of names, numbers, and email addresses of those they should be contacting in the legislature, etc. Believes people would be happy to do that with the proper information.

Mr. Godwin

- Said it would be illegal for the District to do that because we receive tax money to run our business, and we can't be involved in lobbying.

Mr. Benton

- Appreciates everything everyone has said this evening. The next time this will be on an agenda is May 22. The list of cuts may be close to the same or it may change dramatically. He hopes things will be removed.

**REPORTS**

**0708-238 – Reports to the Board of Education**

A. Superintendent Godwin:

- No report.
- B. Correspondence to the Board
- C. District Committees

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**0708-239 – Board Business**

A. Board Communication

Ms. Davis

- Had to leave because of illness.

Mr. Short

- Enjoyed the presentation on youth development and student transitions.
- Appreciated all of the speakers tonight and hopes the situation improves.

Ms. Stanley

- Liked Mr. Winford's suggestion about putting legislators' names and information on our website. If that's illegal, can't we just list area representatives?
- One of the signs being carried this evening asked how many administrators have been laid off. Asked if she could get an idea of the percentage of cuts coming out of District administration.
- One of the speakers tonight mentioned that if CSR is cut, the class of 2018 would have no students who experienced CSR. He wondered how that class would fare. Last year's class of 2007 had zero CSR. Just an observation.

Heather McGowan, District Public Relations Officer

- The Budget Central site on the District website does list legislators.

Ms. McCormick

- Appreciated hearing from everyone this evening. There are no good choices, and someone is going to be affected no matter what. Hopefully, there will be some good news before May 22.
- The student union open house at Cordova High was wonderful.
- Attended some events/meetings that she's been meaning to get to and talked a little about each:
  - Folsom Planning Commission meeting
  - Rancho Cordova Community Council luncheon

- Parent District Advisory meeting
- Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting

Mr. Shaw

- Thanked Superintendent Godwin for putting out the effort to make contact with the legislators. Mr. Godwin knows more about funding education than they do. Have to have the guts to tell them what has to be done. More folks must do that. Pat's proactive way is starting to result in changes in the way some of these people are thinking.

Mr. Benton

- The list is never fun. Believes we will get good news before May 22. Everyone has come forward to talk about what's important to them. The bottom line is before next year, things will have to be cut. Just hopes it's not too difficult.

B. Pending Board Requests

C. District Committees

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

**INFORMATION**

**0708-240– Modernization and Construction Projects Update – Rancho Cordova**

**0708-241** – Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2008, at Folsom High School, 1655 Iron Point Road, Folsom, California, 95630.

Record of meeting schedule for April 24, 2008:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:09 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	9:27 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick Godwin, Executive Secretary to the Board

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Mary McCormick, Clerk of the Board