

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

March 5, 2008

MINUTES

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

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

March 5, 2008

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

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. Kelli Davis led the flag salute. President Benton announced items to be discussed in closed session.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (0708-184)

Vera Jackson – Folsom resident

- Addressed the Board on her concerns about putting State Student Care under two principals.
- Addressed the Board on some of the items that are listed on the Superintendent's list of possible cuts for 2008/2009.

Rich Johnson – Instructor at Mather Youth Academy

- Addressed the Board on possible cuts in the number of instructors at MYA.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0708-185 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-05-08-27: Ordering of Seniority of Certificated Employees
STANLEY/McCORMICK MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-05-08-27, the ordering of seniority of certificated employees.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

President Benton announced that before the Board recessed to closed session, Superintendent Godwin had some remarks to make.

Mr. Godwin thanked the teachers and Folsom Cordova Education Association leadership for attending the meeting tonight.

- Expressed his and the Board's sorrow in having to consider the actions on the agenda tonight.

- Reminded everyone that this is a necessary and preliminary step in a process that, hopefully, will result in a budget that does not require these devastating cuts.
- Believes that the governor's proposal may be more political theater than reality, but we are required to treat it seriously and have to proceed with notifying about 120 valued staff members that they may not have a job next year.
- Discussed the timelines and process involved in making the decisions they've had to make.
- Staff members may request a hearing to determine if there is cause for not re-employing the individual. Hearings are scheduled for April 15 and 16.
- Between now and May 14, when the Governing Board must decide whether or not to issue a notice of termination of service, he and the Board will work diligently to improve the funding for our schools and seek the best possible options for addressing the budget crisis.
- Again stated that they will continue to keep staff, students, parents, and the communities informed about the state's budget crisis and potential impact on our students, schools, and state.
- Encouraged everyone to stay informed and communicate with friends and local leaders on the impacts the proposed reductions will have on everyone.
- Thanked Assistant Superintendent Larry Brubaker, his staff, and legal counsel Kingsley, Bogard and Thompson for their hard work and caring in doing their best to minimize the number of layoff notices and provide clear and complete communication for the affected employees.

Alex Chwalik, FHS student

- Asked who is affected by this – just teachers, or other people?

Barbara Brydon, FCEA president

- Asked if the list of proposed cuts, the document upon which the layoffs were based, had been officially adopted by the Board.
- If all of these people do not return next year, students will be serviced by 14% fewer teachers. Doesn't believe that is possible to do.

Mr. Godwin

- Cuts affect everyone from nurses, teachers, administrators...anyone who has a certificate. Classified employees, like clerks, custodians, bus drivers, etc., may be noticed later.
- Re the proposed cut list: That document is intended for dialogue only at this time. The action taken tonight is somewhat related because if we actually make some of those cuts, layoffs may be required.

Michael Richards – parent

- Asked if the District was making these decisions based on the governor's proposal or the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) that says those deep cuts won't actually be made.
- Expressed concern over possibility of athletics being cut.
- Doesn't feel pay cuts or furloughs should be on the proposed list of cuts.

Mr. Godwin

- We have to base cuts on the governor's proposal and operate under a worst case scenario. The LAO doesn't have the power to alter the governor's recommendations.
- Pay cuts and furloughs have to be agreed upon by the unions. Furloughs would not be on a day when students are in attendance.

Donna Hall, Mather Heights teacher

- Asked if there is a state law that sets a date when school districts must be told what their budgets actually are.

Alex Chwalik,

- As a music student, wondered if she should be concerned about the music program and ways to defend it.

Mr. Godwin

- “No” to the question regarding a date that districts must be notified of their budget. The District, however, must adopt a budget by June 30. There is time, though, between June 30 and when school starts to make adjustments.
- Doesn’t see the Board accepting a recommendation to eliminate the music program from FCUSD. Some adjustments might have to be made, however.

Paula Kellogg, FHS teacher

- Asked about cuts to the District administration, particularly those at the District level, not at the school sites.

Mr. Godwin

- Suggested people go to the District website under Budget Central for a list of frequently asked questions. One question addresses a list of administrative positions already eliminated. There may be more to come.

RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION at 5:37 p.m.

RECONVENED OPEN SESSON at 6:00 p.m.

BOARD PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT

Announced that Mr. Godwin would ask Mr. Brubaker to report out on closed session actions.

Mr. Godwin

- Apologized for the incongruity of discussing potential layoffs while at the same time announcing administrative appointments such as summer school principals and new administrators. Appointing administrators is necessary to help us affect some of the reductions in administration that can be seen on the website.

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

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

Announced summer school administrators.

Announced administrative appointments.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Approved in Closed Session)

SHAW/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No 03-05-08-24: Release/Non-Reelection of Temporary Certificated Employees.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SHAW/McCORMICK MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-05-08-26: Release of Probationary Certificated Employee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

SHORT/McCORMICK MOVED TO APPROVE routine personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELEMENTARY SUMMER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- Curtis Wilson, Principal, Russell Ranch Elementary School
- Elizabeth Shepherd, Principal, Cordova Gardens Elementary School
- Lari Powell, Principal, White Rock Elementary School
- Jennifer Stuck, K- 12, Student Support Services

SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- David Sewell, Principal, Folsom Middle School
- Coline McNeil, Principal, Mitchell Middle School
- Michael Dobson, Vice Principal, Mitchell Middle School
- Cameron Billeci, Principal, Cordova High School
- John Bliss, Vice Principal, Cordova High School
- Shawn Lundberg, Principal, Vista del Lago High School
- Brian Zan, Vice Principal, Vista del Lago High School

RATIFY RESIGNATION AND FIX LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT

- Bonita Novota, Teacher (#991647), Mills Middle School. Bonita was hired on August 7, 2007, and has been employed 1 year with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 05/30/08.
- Alison Parsons, Special Education Teacher (#991793), Mitchell Middle School. Alison was hired on August 7, 2007, and has been employed 1 year with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 05/30/08.
- Jennifer Tyo, Special Education Teacher (#201335), Navigator Elementary School. Jennifer was hired on August 7, 2007, and has been employed 1 year with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Effective: 05/30/08.

McCORMICK/SHORT MOVED TO APPROVE the following administrative appointments.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS 2008-2009

- Patricia Carbone (#990241); From: Principal, Gold Ridge Elementary School; To: Principal, Cordova Gardens Elementary School
- Monika Himmrich (#202010); From: Principal, Cordova Gardens Elementary School; To: Principal, Empire Oaks Elementary School
- Charles Linebarger (#991851, #991971); From: 50% Principal, Walnutwood High School/50% Coordinator Student Care; To: 50% Principal, Walnutwood High School/50% Vice Principal, Adult Education
- Canen Petersen (#990196); From: Interim Principal, Natoma Station Elementary School; To: Principal, Natoma Station Elementary School
- Joseph Piazza (#200108); From: 60% Child Welfare & Attendance Officer, Attendance & Due Process/40% Vice Principal, Adult Education; To: 100% Principal, Adult Education

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0708-186 – Adopt Resolution No. 03-05-08-28: Layoff of Certificated Employees

Mr. Godwin announced that this item indicates the layoff of 41 total elementary teachers, 32.4 secondary teachers, and 1.75 additional support staff.

Barbara Brydon

- Regarding the earlier item that addressed the ordering of seniority of certificated employees, a number of teachers have completed their CLAD training, but are waiting for their credential. Are those people being negatively impacted by that?

Kim Bogard, attorney

- The District has to take into consideration those items in their possession today. Can't consider what comes in later.

Wendy Weston, teacher

- Is one of those teachers waiting for her CLAD credential. Expressed her concerns.

Ms. Stanley

- Is troubled by the fact that the Board approved the criteria, and now we're talking about people who have earned the credential, but haven't yet received the paperwork. Asked if, at some point, there is an option for adjustment.

Ms. Bogard

- The March 15 deadline for noticing people makes adjustment not a possibility.

Melinda Wilson, FHS teacher

- Also spoke to the issue of the CLAD credential.

Paula Kellogg, FHS teacher

- Was involved in a similar situation, and her credential had to be considered.

Marty Baumann, Director of State and Federal Programs

- Indicated there would be very few from the list in that situation. Most of the teachers are younger, newer hires, and CLAD is part of their training and credential.

SHAW/McCORMICK MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 03-05-08-28: Layoff of Certificated Employees.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms. Stanley

- This makes her very sad tonight. Hopefully, we're looking at the worst case scenario, but we have to be responsible in meeting legal deadlines.
- Appreciates the superintendent being out there in front of the Board.
- Important for us to keep open and honest communication and answer people's questions so that rumors can be avoided.
- Recognized efforts of the District in trying to maintain sound educational business while having to go through this process.

Mr. Shaw

- This is a difficult process that he hates to go through.
- The state can take until September to adopt their budget, but we have to do it in June.
- Need to be more vocal in talking to our legislators about our dissatisfaction about the way things are done.

- We're upsetting a lot of people tonight. Hopes it will be different in the end, but have to prepare for the worst. Need to be patient and nice to each other.

Ms. McCormick

- Thanked all for coming tonight.
- Appreciates the concerns and suggestions. The Board does care and is listening to what everyone has to say.
- Thanked Mr. Godwin for keeping everyone informed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Record of special meeting schedule for March 5, 2008:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:37 p.m.
Open Session	6:00 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Godwin, Executive Secretary to the Board

Mary McCormick, Clerk of the Board