

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

November 5, 2009

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ed Short, President
Teresa A. Stanley, Vice President
JoAnne Reinking, Clerk
Richard Shaw, Member
Roger Benton, Member
Adaeze Nwakobi, Student Member

November 5, 2009

Board members present: Ed Short, Teresa Stanley, JoAnne Reinking, Roger Benton, Richard Shaw, and Student Adaeze Nwakobi

5:00 p.m. – Open Session

CALL TO ORDER (Held in Gymnasium)

President Short announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:05 p.m. – Closed Session

(Held in Gymnasium)

6:00 p.m. – Open Meeting

(Held in Gymnasium)

Meeting convened at 6:10 p.m. President Short called the meeting to order. Student Joo Young Oh led the flag salute.

REPORTING OUT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

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

Superintendent Godwin also reported that the Board unanimously adopted Resolution No. 11-05-09-19 rejecting the ruling of an administrative law judge in the matter of a grievance filed against the District by an employee.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Approved in Closed Session)

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

SHAW/BENTON MOVED TO APPROVE routine certificated personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Rehired 1 with tenured status.
- Rehired 1 with probationary status
- Hired 2 with temporary status
- Appointed 6 athletic directors
- Approved a change of assignment for 34
- Approved a change of status for 1
- Ratified the retirement and fixed the last date of employment for 1

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

BENTON/SHAW MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Approved employment of 19
- Approved reassignment of 10
- Approved unpaid leave of absence for 3
- Approved the retirement and fixed the last date of employment for 1

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

President Short thanked the many people in the audience for coming out tonight and showing their commitment to kids.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

K -12 Physical Education in FCUSD – Heidi Bonnett and Rich Barboza

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos introduced lead teachers Heidi Bonnet and Rich Barboza. Ms. Bonnet and Mr. Barboza explained that in 2006/07, the District received a state block grant for art and physical education programs. They talked about the elementary and secondary PE programs including standards training, Fitnessgram, and equipment purchased through the grant, and gave an overview of both programs. They also asked Trustees to continue to support PE programs in the District.

Discussion was held regarding studies showing students with higher levels of fitness score higher on tests, the possibility of sports being considered as PE credit for graduation, and the state requirement of 200 minutes of PE every 10 days for elementary students.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

STANLEY/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

Ms. Reinking asked to amend the agenda by moving Discussion Item 0910-110, Multi-year Budget Projections, to follow directly after Agenda Consent items due to the number of people wishing to speak.

Ms. Stanley agreed to the request.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

STANLEY/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda incorporating Ms. Reinking's amendment.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0910-100 – Public Participation

No one came forward.

0910-101 – REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

Student Advisory Board: Adaeze Nwakobi

- Reported on the SAB meeting held on October 20 at Mills Middle School. Discussions included a district-wide service project and holiday fundraisers and activities at sites. One project they agreed on was "Pennies for Patients."
- Next meeting will be on November 17. Director of Food Services Crayton Yelverton will talk about school lunches.

PTA Council:

- No report.

California School Employees Association – Acting President Rick Willis:

- No report.

Folsom Cordova Education Association – President Mark Schultz:

Guest speaker, Sandra J. Gallardo teacher Jeannette Sansenbach reported on events taking place at her school. She noted that Gallardo Elementary is looking into becoming a California Distinguished School.

Folsom Cordova Leadership Association – President Joan Jarman:

- Reminded the Board that Folsom Cordova Administrators Association voted to change the name of their organization to the Folsom Cordova Leadership Association (FCLA).

AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS

SHAW/BENTON MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items with the exception of Item 0910-104A, Expulsion Recommendations, Case No. 0910-14(S).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

0910-102 - Administrative Matters

- A. Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes: October 15, 2009
- B. Approve Special Board Meeting Minutes: October 26, 2009

0910-103– Business Matters

- A. Accept Donations: To Acknowledge Receipt of Donations to the District
- B. Approve Revised 2008/2009 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report: Actual Revenues and Expenditures Reported on the Annual State Budget Form, Fund 01, General Fund; Fund 21, Building Fund; Fund 25, Capital Facilities Fund; and Fund 35, County School Facilities Fund
- C. Approve Budget Revisions: General Fund and Other Funds
- D. Approve License Agreement Renewal between Catholic Healthcare West and FCUSD for the Folsom Family Clinic at Theodore Judah Elementary School
- E. Approve the Sale of Surplus/Obsolete District Furniture and Equipment
- F. Approve Appointment of Measure M Citizens Oversight Committee Members

0910-104 – Instructional Matters

- A. Expulsion Recommendations: Case Numbers: 0910-14(S), 0910-15(S), 0910-16(S), 0910-17(S), 0910-18(S), 0910-19(S), and 0910-20(S)

0910-14(S)

See below.

0910-15(S)

Expel through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Riverview Elementary through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; individual counseling to address decision-making skills.

0910-16(S)

Expel through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Cordova Villa Elementary through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; individual counseling to address decision-making skills.

0910-17(S)

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; student is to seek educational options through district of residence (El Dorado Union High School District) through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; upon reinstatement, if student re-establishes residency in FCUSD, student must contact the District Hearing Officer for educational placement; individual counseling to address substance abuse and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive program.

0910-18(S)

Expel through the end of the 3rd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; student is to attend the Mather Youth Middle Academy through the end of the 3rd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; student must successfully complete at least two trimesters at the Mather Youth Middle 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 program.

0910-19(S)

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend Walnutwood High or any accredited educational program outside of FCUSD through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills.

0910-20(S)

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to transfer to Walnutwood High through the end of the spring semester of the 2009-2010 academic year; individual student counseling to address decision-making skills.

0910-104 A – Expulsion Recommendations

0910-14(S)

Expel through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to remain at Mitchell Middle School through the end of the 2nd trimester of the 2009-2010 academic year; individual counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills

STANLEY/BENTON MOVED TO ACCEPT all findings and recommendations with the exception that a different placement be made.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- B. Approve Appointment of Team Physicians for 2009-2010: Cordova, Folsom, and Vista del Lago High Schools

0910-105 – Personnel Matters

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 11-05-09-17: Credential Waiver Request 2009-2010

DISCUSSION

0910-110 – Multi-year Budget Projections

Mr. Godwin asked that everyone pay very close attention to this presentation. It is important that everyone fully understand the information presented.

Deputy Superintendent Debbie Bettencourt reviewed the financial situation of California and the District. She said she anticipates mid-year budget cuts, and that the state needs to figure out how to adequately fund education.

- The District is in “qualified” fiscal status. We must have a plan for a balanced budget by March 2010, or the county will declare us “negative” status and will take over the District.
- This year, the District received a 15% reduction (\$833 per student) in funding from the state compared to 2007/08.
- One-time stimulus money and money from categorical flexibility was used this year to continue programs for students.
- Districts may reduce their school year to 175 days. If they go longer, they will not be funded for the extra days.
- Reserves may be reduced to 1% from 3%; however, by 2011/12, the reserve must be restored to the required percentage adopted by the State Board of Education.
- Ongoing general fund revenue for 2010/11 is \$119,861,556. Ongoing expenses for 2010/11 are \$130,519,168 for a **\$10,657,612 shortfall for 2010/11.**

Mr. Godwin clarified that the survey District students were asked to complete regarding their choices of electives for next year was just that, a survey. It was not a recommendation or a plan. He thinks the word “likely” used in the survey may have been a mistake and apologized for any misunderstanding. The District is going to aggressively seek other options to eliminating or reducing elective choices for students, but, in view of the drastic cuts that will have to be made, will have to explore every avenue.

If any teaching jobs are to be eliminated, teachers must be given preliminary notice by March 15. That's why the lengthy process was begun now. The survey was taken to find out what classes students would want to take next year. After getting that information, the District could apply priorities, such as which courses are necessary for high school graduation and look at career and technical education courses, arts, and music. Some courses are more popular than others. If there is a course that not many are interested in, there may be other options for that course – independent study, online, distance learning, etc.

Superintendent Godwin said we will consider every other budget options before reducing electives. Will postpone the final decision as long as possible, but we must have a final plan by March. The budget does not have to be adopted until June 30, so there is a long time to work together. He thanked all the students and parents in attendance and noted that their thinking, understanding, and cooperation are needed.

Trustees discussed site carryovers, how much is spent on special education services to students, and the option of a reduced school year. Ms. Stanley asked all of the students in the audience with signs to file by the Trustees so that they could read the signs.

Mr. Godwin noted the students' passion regarding this subject and asked them to write thoughtful, meaningful letters to Assemblyman Roger Niello, Assemblywoman Alyson Huber, Senator Dave Cox, and the governor asking them to adequately fund education.

Public participation

The following people addressed the Board regarding possible cuts to electives and a five-period day for juniors and seniors.

- Joo Young Oh
- Christopher Russito
- Blaine White
- Topher Anderson
- Teresa Brady
- Donna Thompson
- Karyn Lee
- Kailen Pascual
- Nancy Detmers
- Sarah Kooshian
- Danielle Hanzalik
- Justine Angello
- Laurie Theis
- Lynn Bonzell (Asked the Board to consider reducing the PE requirement for students and requested a line item budget be made available for the public to look at.)
- Rachel Glover
- Mirna Romero
- Joe Scales (Asked the Board to consider starting school in September and ending in June to avoid the hot August weather, which he thinks could save thousands of dollars in heating and air conditioning costs.)
- Gloryvette Lichtman

Board comments

Ms. Stanley

- Appreciated tonight's speakers and heard some points raised on which she would ask for feedback.
- May need to address our own graduation requirements.

- Doesn't believe she can vote to cut AP and other elective courses. If we do have to reduce anything, we need to be responsible for alternatives that are viable for kids. Knows that kids come to school for electives.
- Middle school electives are also a big concern for her.
- It is helpful to get alternatives and ideas from the public.

Ms. Reinking

- Promised to work hard to not cut electives at any level or increase class sizes.
- Last year, we all worked together to solve the problem, and we'll have to do that again. Leadership needs to set an example on how to get there. As a paid representative of the District, she makes \$406 a month. She wrote a check for 3% of her salary and presented it to Ms. Bettencourt as her contribution.
- Urged people to support the Folsom Foundation.

Mr. Shaw

- We are a people business with several thousand employees. 85% of our budget is salaries and benefits. When talking about eliminating electives, you're talking about laying off people.
- His mantra has always been how we can balance the budget without laying off people.
- Appealed to all employee groups to start talking now about how we as a community can share responsibility for keeping this district intact. Urged employee groups to share the responsibility by taking furlough days. Five days would amount to only a 3% reduction in salary.
- Our goal has always been to make cuts, but not affect the kids. After years of cuts, we are now going into the classrooms.

Mr. Short

- Thanked everyone for speaking tonight.
- One thing that jumped out at him tonight is that there is definitely a relevance and rigor to electives. Music, languages, etc., are relevant to kids' futures. Will do everything he can to prevent cuts to electives.
- Appreciates the efforts of folks to try to figure out alternatives to cuts.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0910-106 – Approve the School Facilities Needs Analysis (SFNA)

BENTON/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE the School Facilities Needs Analysis (SFNA), which demonstrates the nexus between new residential development and the need to assess fees to finance new school construction in compliance with the provision of SB 50.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC HEARING

0910-107 – Authorization of the Alternative Section 65995.5 School Facilities Fee and Provisional Approval of the Alternative Section 65995.7 School Facilities Fee

President Short opened the public hearing at 8:39 p.m.

No one came forward.

Public hearing closed at 8:39 p.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

0910-108 – Adopt Resolution No. 11-05-09-18: Establish Alternative Section 65995.5 Fee and Alternative Section 65995.7 Fee

STANLEY/BENTON MOVED TO ADOPT Resolution No. 11-05-09-18 to establish Alternative Section 65995.5 Fee and Alternative Section 65995.7 Fee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

0910-109 – Overview of District Performance Improvement Status

Testing and Interventions Coordinator David Knight explained the process by which a district enters into program improvement. Even though we are a “high achieving” district, under Title I and Title III accountability, FCUSD may enter program improvement next year. We continue to have a positive trend in district subgroups, but the target is impossible to attain. He reviewed steps the District will have to take if it enters PI next year.

Trustees noted that the system is set up so that everyone will be a failure. Discussion was held regarding the socio-economically disadvantaged subgroup, who determines the status, and how it is determined.

0910-111 – Summary of Public Forums on School Closures and Boundary Changes

Superintendent Godwin noted that tonight was not a recommendation, but a summary of the forums held in Rancho Cordova. His intent is to have a recommendation prepared by November 12 or 13, with presentation to the Board at the November 19 Board meeting. We are working on FAQ’s for the District’s website under Budget Central. Some comments/concerns/suggestions from the 73 people who spoke in over seven hours of testimony:

- Concern about home values depreciating and empty schools becoming targets for vandalism
- Folsom schools should be looked at as well, or even first.
- Money spent for modernization should not be a factor – the community did not have a say in the order of modernization. Some felt it should be a factor.
- Some students will have to walk longer distances.
- The timeline is too rapid – not enough time for analysis and more information to the community.
- Concern about a possible sudden increase in population and what would happen – would schools be able to be reopened?
- Instead of closing schools, make cuts to administration.
- Save heating and air-conditioning by starting school later.
- Money savings is too small to consider.
- Class sizes would be increased.
- Impact on test scores?
- Charter schools?
- Closing schools violates language of the Measure M bond (the District has researched this and finds there are no legal concerns).
- Seek corporate sponsorships instead of closing schools.
- Consider K-8 schools.
- Rancho Cordova carried Folsom for a long time, now it’s Folsom’s turn to give up things.
- Programs at schools will be lost.
- The largest school is being recommended for closure.
- Family feeling and special cultures and programs at schools

Public comments

Christie Elder

- Suggested it might help people understand the decisions the Board has to make if the budget presentation were shown to the Rancho Cordova community.

0910-112 – Timeline and Process to Replace the Retiring Superintendent

Superintendent Godwin noted that the Board has accepted his resignation and set his last date of employment as June 30, 2010. He assured everyone that he will work tirelessly on the budget and other District issues until then. He reviewed the options the Board has regarding either going out for a superintendent search, which could cost between \$40,000 and \$60,000, or appointing someone from

within. He also reviewed the suggested timeline and suggestions for receiving community input via confidential letters to the Board president at the District address. Community input could be taken until November 24, which would give the Board president time to prepare a recommendation for the December 10 Board meeting.

Mr. Short

- Thanked Mr. Godwin for his years of commitment to the District and for always keeping kids first. Through some very dire times, he has gone above and beyond what the Board expected.

Ms. Stanley

- After the depressing discussion this evening regarding the budget, she would be “hard-pressed” to spend money to conduct a search. Especially given our District tends to be a “raider district” meaning other districts tend to steal our employees. Thinks we have qualified potential applicants within this district.
- Likes the idea that appointing from within gives us an opportunity to restructure administration with the goal of reducing administrative costs further than we already have.
- Would like to invite community input per Mr. Godwin’s suggestion.

Mr. Shaw

- We’re talking about a dire future in cutting \$10 million; spending \$60,000 for a search just doesn’t fit. Leans toward looking inside and restructuring the District office. Would love to see input from the public by inviting confidential letters to the Board president.

Ms. Reinking

- Doesn’t want it to sound as though a decision has been made. This item was put on the agenda for the public to feel comfortable. It is a very important decision.

Mr. Short

- Doesn’t feel right to spend that kind of money during these times. Supports the idea of looking within.
- Community input is definitely important.
- The timeline has to be very quick. Letters from the public need to be received by November 24.

REPORTS

0910-113 – Reports to the Board of Education

A. Superintendent Godwin:

- No report.

B. Correspondence to the Board

C. District Committees

BOARD OF EDUCATION

0910-114 – Board Business

A. Board Communication

Ms. Nwakobi

- Nice to see everyone here tonight expressing positive and negative opinions. This was her first time experiencing something like this.

Ms. Stanley

- Reported on the Folsom and Rancho Cordova 2x2 meetings held this week.

Mr. Shaw

- Noted that the students here tonight appeared to be high achieving. Would like to hear from a larger cross section of students.
- Is in favor of making certain sports qualify for PE credit.
- Finds the discussion about the effect of starting school later to be very interesting.

Ms. Reinking

- No report.

Mr. Short

- No report.

B. Pending Board Requests

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

INFORMATION

0910-115 – Tentative Agenda: Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2009, at Mills Middle School, 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova CA, 95670.

Record of meeting schedule for November 5, 2009:

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:10 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Godwin, Executive Secretary to the Board

JoAnne Reinking, Clerk of the Board