

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

November 17, 2011

MINUTES

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Richard Shaw, President
Teresa A. Stanley, Vice President
Ed Short, Clerk
Zak Ford, Member
JoAnne Reinking, Member
Mark Sohl, Student Member

November 17, 2011

Board members present: Richard Shaw, Teresa Stanley, Ed Short, Zak Ford, JoAnne Reinking, and Student Mark Sohl

5:00 p.m. – Open Session

CALL TO ORDER (Held in Room 7)

President Shaw announced items to be discussed in closed session.

5:05 p.m. – Closed Session

(Held in Room 7)

6:00 p.m. – Open Meeting

(Held in the Cafetorium)

Meeting convened at 6:06 p.m. President Shaw called the meeting to order. Cordova High School student Nigel Robinson led the flag salute.

REPORTING OUT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

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

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Approved in Closed Session)

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

SHORT/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE routine certificated personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Approved the change in assignment of three.
- Approved the administrative appointment of one.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

SHORT/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE routine classified personnel items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Approved the employment of nine.
- Approved the reassignment of five.
- Ratified and fixed the last date of employment of three.
- Approved the transfer to thirty-nine month reemployment list of one.

SHORT-TERM EMPLOYMENT

SHORT/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE short-term employment.

MOTION CARRIED 4 Ayes, 1 Abstention (Reinking)

- Approved the short-term employment of eighteen.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

FORD/SHORT MOVED TO ADOPT the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

1112-097– Public Participation

None

1112-098 – REPORTS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

Student Advisory Board – Mark Sohl:

- SAB met on November 8 at Sutter Middle School. If you visit campuses, you will see tobacco facts and pledge posters to raise awareness of tobacco and drug prevention.
- The majority of the meeting was spent discussing graduation requirements.

Folsom Cordova Education Foundation

- Trustee Reinking invited everyone to FCEF's second fundraiser event to be held on January 27, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at Vintner's Cellar.

PTA Council – Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos:

- The PTA Council met on November 15 at Rancho Cordova Elementary School. Discussions included graduation requirements, Stephen Nichols provided a presentation on communication, and David Frankel shared information on programs offered for students.

California School Employees Association

- No report.

Folsom Cordova Education Association – President Michael Itkoff:

- Looks forward to seeing District staff attending the Diane Ravitch event.
- The news from the Legislative Analyst office is that triggers will be pulled. Budget predictions for 2012-13 look worse than ever. Politicians are discussing how to educate students but continue to cut education.
- FCEA is not going to take an official position on graduation requirements, but does ask the Trustees to take counselors' opinions into consideration.

Folsom Cordova Leadership Association – President Richard Tapia:

- Thanked Mark Sohl for welcoming the Cordova Meadows student leadership students at the SAB meeting.
- The second part of the CalStat training will be held on December 7, 2011, focusing on learning centers.
- Thanked Superintendent Bettencourt for making it convenient for leadership members to attend the ACSA Leadership Summit. Feedback received was that the workshops were beneficial.
- Frustrated with the legislators on the budget and their lack of accountability at the cost of the students.

AGENDA CONSENT ITEMS

REINKING/STANLEY MOVED TO APPROVE agenda consent items with the exception of item number 1112-101 D.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

1112-099 – Administrative Matters

A. Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2011

1112-100 – 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. Adopt Resolution No. 11-17-11-13: Lease of a Toro Lawn Mower - PNC Equipment Finance, LLC

1112-101 – Instructional Matters

A. Expulsion Recommendations: Case Numbers: 1112-2, 1112-23(S), 1112-24(S), and 1112-25(S)

1112-2

Expel through the end of the spring semester of the 2011-2012 academic year; student is to attend the Sacramento County Community School or an accredited educational program outside of the District through the end of the spring semester of the 2011-2012 academic year; individual student counseling to address substance abuse and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive programs of FCUSD.

1112-23(S)

Expel through the end of the 3rd trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Cordova Gardens Opportunity Program through the end of the third trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; individual student counseling to address substance abuse and decision-making skills; student must submit a “clean” drug test upon request for readmission to the comprehensive programs of FCUSD.

1112-24(S)

Expel through the end of the 3rd trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Cordova Gardens Opportunity Program through the end of the third trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; individual student counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills.

1112-25(S)

Expel through the end of the 3rd trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; suspend expulsion order; student is to attend the Cordova Gardens Opportunity Program through the end of the third trimester of the 2011-2012 academic year; individual counseling to address assaultive behavior and decision-making skills.

- B. Approve Extended Educational Field Trip Request: Mills Students to Math and Science Camp at Sunset Beach, CA
- C. Approve Williams and Valenzuela Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) Annual Report
- D. See below.

1112-101 D – SECOND READING: Adopt Revisions to Board Policies and Administrative Regulations: 6151 to 6162.6 of the 6000 Series – (Instruction)

REINKING/STANLEY MOVED TO ADOPT revisions to board policies and administrative regulations 6151.1 to 6162.6 of the 6000 series with the exception of AR 6153, School-Sponsored Trips. Staff will incorporate additional changes to this regulation and bring back for adoption at a subsequent Board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1112-102 – 2012 California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly Nominations

President Shaw opened nominations.

SHORT/REINKING MOVED TO NOMINATE Teresa Stanley for the CSBA Delegate Assembly.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

No further nominations were made.

President Shaw closed the nominations.

1112-103 – Approve Date of Annual Organizational Meeting: The Annual Organizational Meeting of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District Board of Trustees is set for Thursday, December 8, 2011, 6:00 p.m., Folsom High School, Folsom, California
STANLEY/REINKING MOVED TO APPROVE the annual organizational meeting to be held on December 8, 2011, 6:00 p.m., at Folsom High School.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, including Advisory

DISCUSSION

1112-104 – Proposed Dates, Times, and Places of Regular Board Meetings for January 2012 – December 2012

Superintendent Bettencourt reviewed the draft meeting dates noting the deviation from the usual first and third Thursday format in the months of March, June, and December, and from two meetings a month to only one meeting in April and December and none in July. The proposed calendar also includes a Special Board meeting on Saturday, January 7.

Staff will bring the meeting schedule to the Trustees for approval at a subsequent meeting.

1112-105 – Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6146.1: Graduation Requirements (Instruction)

Assistant Superintendent Janie DeArcos explained a periodic review of graduation requirements is required with the most recent revisions conducted in 1993 and 2001. The State of California mandates requirements (education code 51225.3) with additions determined by the District. Dr. DeArcos reviewed the options including the following:

- Recent legislation, AB 1330 (Furutani), allows for a Career Technology Education (CTE) class as an alternative to fine arts (Visual and Performing Arts or VAPA) or foreign language.
- Proposing a third year of science class, or two years of science and one year of a CTE course.
- Proposing a requirement of geometry, either applied or proof dominant.
- Exploring options for health and drivers education.
- Proposing a requirement for a course that denotes extended learning such as college course, distance learning, internship, ROP, or online options.

Ms. Stanley

- Clarified that promoting science in the third year is to perform well on common core assessments.
- Clarified if health education is not a requirement, need to determine where to teach the health mandates.
- If the District keeps the health education requirement, students who are trying to be competitive and take all the recommended courses for university systems, are left with one elective.

Dr. DeArcos

- Clarified that the proposal is for CTE to replace technology as a requirement.

Mr. Short

- Questioned why we are making the change.
- Likes the options of different types of math, including traditional and applied.

Dr. DeArcos

- It is our responsibility to prepare all students. The additional options allow that to occur.

- There are districts that have the A-G as their requirements. We want options for our students, but do not recommend mandating completion of fifteen A-G courses.

Ms. Reinking

- One thing not included in this proposal is the requirement for a third year of math in the junior year.
- How many of our current students are passing geometry?
- Clarified that the Board can say we want to keep fine arts and foreign language a requirement, and not pair it with CTE.
- Clarified that the new law allows the option of keeping the technology requirement and renaming it CTE.
- Do we have the infrastructure and personnel in place to make these changes happen, such as making geometry a requirement, tracking mechanisms in PowerSchool, and offering internships and online courses?

Dr. DeArcos

- The suggestion is to make geometry (either applied or A-G) a requirement.
- The infrastructure is not in place for all of the proposed changes. They would not take effect for a few years, possibly 2014-15.
- We encourage, if not outright require, all juniors to enroll in a mathematics course.

Joe Jenkins, ETIS Director

- The District is upgrading to a new version of PowerSchool and it includes the mechanisms to manage graduation requirements.

Mr. Sohl

- Clarified that in our District, all students are required to take three years of math and they are not necessarily Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.
- Questioned if the applied version of geometry would be an acceptable fulfillment of an A-G to the universities.
- How would changes in the health and drivers education requirement affect alternative and continuation schools?
- Believes the VAPA courses are important and questioned having a choice between VAPA and CTE. Should make it known that VAPA and CTE are both options.

Dr. DeArcos

- Universities currently do not look favorably to any applied courses, but that is changing.
- The District offers some great CTE electives at the continuation schools, but more are needed.
- Alternative school students will most likely continue to enroll in drivers education as an elective course.

Ms. Stanley

- Applied geometry makes her nervous and is concerned it could be a fad. Is there any proof that applied is a better mechanism?

Mr. Shaw

- Questioned the common core standards and grade 11 assessments coming up in three years. Is the assessment evaluating the success of the program or individual student success? What does it mean to us on how we do business? Is this a good time to address requirements, when they may

be affected by implementation of common core standards?

Ms. Stanley

- Common core dictates curriculum but not graduation requirements.

Ms. Bettencourt

- Reviewed how the proposed changes may look, by number of credits.

Public Comment

Heidi Bonnet, District teacher

- Spoke in support of health education as a graduation requirement and shared letters in support of the course from her students.

Don Wright, District parent

- Spoke regarding his student transferring in and still being required to take health education because credit was not given for this course from another school district.

Sergio Cuellar, coordinator for California for Justice and Campaign for Quality Education

- Spoke regarding opposition to AB 1330 and urged that a CTE course not be substituted for a fine arts or foreign language course.

Katie Valenzuela, Civil Rights Policy Advocates

- Spoke regarding opposition to AB 1330 and in support of preparing low income students for college.

Kay McAleer, Vista del Lago High School teacher

- Spoke in support of health and drivers education as requirements.

Ashley Donahue, Cordova High School graduate

- Spoke in support of CTE options and the valuable skills she learned from these courses.

Linda Greer, Cordova High School teacher

- Spoke in support of AB 1330 and the positive options it offers students.

Joe Scales, Folsom High School counselor

- Shared feedback from Folsom High School staff:
 - Strongly recommends keeping third year of math.
 - Recommends keeping health education as a requirement, and can pair with a lot of different courses even an open period. Drivers education can be an elective.
- Concerned that not enough input was requested from counselors and teachers before presenting this item tonight.
- Infrastructure needs to be developed before establishing requirements.
- Very much in favor of CTE classes, but what does it mean? What classes do we have to offer? Finding good CTE teachers is hard to do.

Robert Reed, Vista del Lago High School teacher

- Spoke in support of health and drivers education as graduation requirements.

Johanna Cunningham, CEO for PARTY Program

- PARTY Program stands for Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth.

- This is a four-hour risk prevention program for students in health and drivers education classes at Vista del Lago and Folsom high schools.
- Invited Trustees to attend tomorrow's program at Mercy Medical Center at 9:00 a.m.

Lisa Johnson, Vista del Lago High School teacher

- Spoke in support of health and drivers education as graduation requirements.
- Shared feedback from students in her class and the majority said health and drivers education should remain requirements.

Laurie Theis, Folsom High School teacher

- Spoke in support of health education as a graduation requirement.

John Fuller, Folsom High School teacher

- Spoke in support of a third year of science, and health education, as graduation requirements.

Mark Nelson, Folsom High School teacher

- Spoke regarding concerns with requiring a geometry course that doesn't meet the A-G requirements. The applied geometry course being proposed is great, but geometry should not be a requirement. Also, schools may not have the facilities for this new course.
- Questioned whether the AP statistics class could fill the requirement as a CTE course.

Meagan Cook, Cordova High School teacher

- Spoke in support of a third year of science as a graduation requirement, or the CTE option for some students, and also in support of requiring health education.

Jean Cavanaugh, Folsom High School teacher

- Teaches CTE courses and these students attend college. They also get college credit for CTE courses. CTE has pathways and bring Carl Perkins grant funds to the District.
- CTE credential teachers are needed for a strong program.

Conrade Mayer, community member

- Thankful for the health education teachers for educating students on subjects most parents have trouble talking about.

Mary Ann Delleney, District health coordinator

- Spoke in support of changing the title of family life to health education and keeping it paired with drivers education as graduation requirements.

Ms. Bettencourt

- The Board is reviewing all policies this year, and this one on graduation requirements is one of them. It originally came to the Board in October, but was pulled for further instructions to look at freeing up more options for electives by eliminating the requirement for family life and drivers education.
- The District needs to be prepared for the common core standards. Some students are skipping geometry, so alternative options need to be provided. All students deserve choices. Does not think adding CTE as an alternative diminishes fine arts or languages, or the success of the student after high school. A lot of work is needed on CTE, online, and internship courses, and more AP courses are needed.
- Implementation is at least four years out as time is needed to develop infrastructure, educate parents, and implement correctly.

Board Comment

Mr. Short

- Appreciates hearing the feedback and dialogue on graduation requirements. Is in support of the double track and options. It is time to update and realign ourselves, and agrees we need to take time to do properly.

Mr. Ford

- There are multiple paths for students to take after high school. It is our responsibility to prepare students to be successful for the real world, which includes careers that require college and careers that do not require college.
- In regards to AB 1330, it is important to remember it provides an additional option, not an additional requirement. It does not take away from students who are college bound, but does benefit those who want to enter the workforce directly after school.
- Is an advocate of college and believes every child who wants to attend should have the opportunity. Statistics show that not all people attend college. We need to have policies that increase the likelihood that students will succeed in college, and it is also critical to address the needs of students not college bound.
- Family Life and drivers education focuses on preventative actions. Does not support removing these courses as a graduation requirement. Agrees that parents provide the best example and influence, but a lot of students don't have the foundation or are not comfortable talking to parents about these issues. The courses are beneficial for all students.

Ms. Stanley

- We should look at the courses and determine if they should be required for our students to know before they graduate.
- We know not all our students will attend college, but we should not assume they are not going to college and limit their opportunities. They need to have the option kept opened. Points are well taken regarding the achievement gap widening, but the answer is not to make a less rigorous requirement.
- Concerned that we have cut out zero periods, seventh period, and summer school and now we are encouraging juniors and seniors to have a short day. We are cutting opportunities, and if they want to go to a UC and be competitive, we are not leaving them room. If they take four years of music, how are they going to take language, and vice versa. We are not giving them the opportunity to be well rounded and competitive.
- Would like to see us leave options open. Understands the benefit of health education for some, but not all. We are trying to legislate the graduation requirements for a few and not the many. Should have health education available as option, but not as a requirement. Could also have as a requirement, with a parent opt out.
- With respect to CTE, believes it is valuable and likes exchanging with the technology requirement. Concerned about adding CTE course in place of a VAPA and language requirement. Believes it will interfere with our VAPA programs. We can't do everything, because we don't have money. If we offer numerous CTE programs, will be able to offer less VAPA programs.
- The third year of science is beneficial.
- Is struggling with what applied geometry means. If requiring geometry, should look at offering by extended learning options.
- Can only find one other district in the state that requires drivers education for graduation. It doesn't need to be a requirement, can be optional. Our goal is academic student success.
- Supports the expansion of the additional types of extended learning such as distance learning and online options but ground work is needed before implementing.

- PARTY program sounds great, but it is a school-wide program.
- It is not our right to assume that all kids need health education to graduate. Some of the issues referred to tonight need to be dealt with by the families with a medical doctor.
- Need to make college an opportunity available for all our students.

Ms. Reinking

- Concerned when Ms. Bettencourt recapped the proposed changes it showed electives down to 20 credits for students on the UC track.
- Doesn't support geometry as requirement. Would like to see more math options. Is on the fence on adding a fourth year math requirement, but we should keep the third year math in junior year.
- Is hearing support for health education and hearing that flexibility is requested for drivers education. There is a problem with pairing drivers education at Vista del Lago High School due to the 4x4 schedule. Not many school districts in the state require drivers education for graduation.
- Regarding the third year of science, or two years coupling with CTE, many will not opt for the CTE.
- Our current requirement for foreign language and VAPA is working well and should leave as is.
- Should keep our standards aligned to A-G, but give students as much flexibility as possible.
- Hopes staff has enough direction to know what to bring back and that we are not ready for the extended learning options for a few years.

Mr. Sohl

- Graduation requirements were discussed at the SAB meeting. The majority of the SAB members believe health education should be a graduation requirement, and that drivers education should not since online courses and driving schools are available.
- The third year of science is a great idea. A lot of students he knows opted out on taking and now as seniors wished they would have.
- Believes foreign language should be a requirement.
- Believes graduation requirements should reflect A-G requirements. Some students take the CTE route and then want A-G and it is too late.

Mr. Shaw

- The total numbers of credits required to graduate is 220, but the students can obtain 240 in four years. There is room for electives.
- Agrees with Mr. Ford about CTE. Loves the model developing that if a student gets into an academy can springboard in different categories.
- Shouldn't label kids college bound or not college bound. Need to create pathways so they can go in any direction.
- Concerned that we need to decide what we are going to do with core standards. Where are the places that will provide this information to students? For example, core standards include health literacy. How do we address? Do we need to keep health education if we respect the core standards?

Ms. Bettencourt explained tonight was the first discussions and exchange of ideas. Next, staff will take to counselors, principals, Curriculum Advisory Committee (CAC), and Student Advisory Board (SAB) and then bring back to the Trustees for further discussions and a possible decision in January or February.

1112-106 – Folsom Cordova Education Association 2012-2013 Proposed Contract Openers to the Board of Education and Announcement of Public Hearing Scheduled for the December 8, 2011, Regular Board Meeting

Assistant Superintendent Cathy Runnels reviewed FCEA's contract negotiation proposals for a successor collective Bargaining Agreement, July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Mr. Ford commented he appreciates all our teachers do for the District and is optimistic a reasonable agreement can be reached in a timely manner.

The Public Hearing will be held during the regular Board Meeting on December 8, 2011, at Folsom High School, 6:00 p.m. (Open Session).

INFORMATION

1112-107 - Modernization and Construction Projects Update

REPORTS

1112-108– Reports to the Board of Education

A. Superintendent Bettencourt:

- Trustees will be attending the California School Board Association annual conference November 30 to December 2.
- The Sacramento Building Trade's open house is Monday, December 5.
- Congratulations to the football teams at Vista del Lago and Folsom high schools for being in the playoffs.

B. Correspondence to the Board

C. Robles-Wong: Public School Financing Lawsuit

BOARD OF EDUCATION

1112-109– Board Business

A. Board Communication

Ms. Reinking

- Complimented Sandra J. Gallardo Elementary School PTA for what they are doing with the Love and Logic parenting class and for purchasing the materials for teachers who are participating.
- Vista del Lago High School seniors are attending Disneyland on Friday, May 18, leaving at noon. The opportunity for this type of weekend field trip was extended to Cordova and Folsom high schools.
- Thanked Mr. and Mrs. Itkoff for bringing the lego scrimmage to Theodore Judah Elementary School. Need to look at ways to bring more programs like this to elementary students, helping to set pathways.
- The Rancho Cordova Optimist Club honored FCUSD teacher Joel Francisco for achievement in education. Mark Sohl was also honored with a Youth Optimist award.
- Thanked Lori Emmington for hosting the parent information night on teen drug and alcohol use in our community. Wished every parent could attend.

Mr. Ford

- Participated in the Cordova Recreation and Park District 2x2 meeting. Discussions included joint use and sharing information with the secondary principals, and changing the pay structure at Teen Haven and getting the word out about the program through schools. The next meeting will be held in February.
- Attended the secondary curriculum meeting (CAC).

- Project 680's foot drive for socks and shoes was successful and will benefit our students in need.
- The next Board meeting will be his one year anniversary on the Board and wants to do something special. Has formed the Daniel Campbell Ford Scholarship in honor of his great grandfather. Two scholarships will be awarded for \$1,000, one each to a student in the Folsom and Rancho Cordova communities. The scholarship requirements can be found at www.danielcampbellford.com.

Mr. Sohl

- Thanked Mr. Shaw for attending the last SAB meeting.
- Participated in a Point Break workshop held at First Convenient Church. It is a workshop for preventing harassment and bullying, and breaking down barriers within the school. Wishes all schools could participate.
- Congratulated Cordova High School ASB President Jessica Lam for winning a Rancho Cordova Youth Optimist award.
- Attended a Cordova High School site council meeting and safety and emergency plans were discussed. Commended the diligence in revising the plans every year.
- Looking forward to the CSBA annual conference and hopes to learn a lot.

Mr. Short

- Attended the Rancho Cordova Chamber State of the City event. Mayor McGarvey gave a great speech. There were discussions on how businesses are fairing and one of the positives is that schools attract people and businesses to the community. The businesses can work with the schools in the CTE area.
- Attended the Optimist Club ceremony last night, along with a large number of our staff. Proud to have so many students recognized by our principals. Congratulated award recipients Mark Sohl, Jessica Lam and Joel Francisco. Joel Francisco's speech was enlightening. He is an amazing teacher.

Ms. Stanley

- Only half of the districts in California have health education as a graduation requirement.
- Attended the secondary curriculum advisory (CAC) meeting. Our District is ahead with CTE. The group approved curriculums for SAT preparation, ROP television occupations, and work force internship programs.
- Attended the Rancho Cordova State of City event.
- Congratulated Mark Sohl and Jessica Lamb for receiving the Youth Optimist awards.
- Congratulated the Folsom High School cross country team for qualifying for state competition. It is good when coaches have to decide who is competing at the meets because it means we have a lot of talent and good coaching. Wished them good luck.

Mr. Shaw

- Vista del Lago High School students have recently won sectional championships in girls' soccer, cross country, and volleyball; and the football teams at Vista del Lago and Folsom high schools are in the playoffs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1112-110 – Tentative Agenda: Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2011, at Folsom High School, 1655 Iron Point Road, Folsom, California, 95630

Record of meeting schedule for November 17, 2011

Open Session	5:00 p.m.
Closed Session	5:05 p.m.
Open Session	6:06 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at	9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Bettencourt, Executive Secretary to the Board

Ed Short, Clerk of the Board