

MINUTES
September 16, 2004

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by President Clyde at 1:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and an inspirational reading led by Armen Bacon.

ATTENDANCE Members present: President Allen Clyde, Vice President Keith Eubanks, and Members Delbert Cederquist, Dr. Sally Tannenbaum, and Barbara Thomas.

Participating staff: Superintendent Peter G. Mehas, Don Collins and Daniel Pietro, Deputy Superintendents; Jan Biggs, Senior Administrator to the Superintendent, Legal Department; Armen Bacon, Senior Director to the Superintendent; Elizabeth Torres, Board Secretary.

Visitors: Janie Rocheford, Ken Campbell, Pam Coronado, Daniel Loewen, and various Court & Community School students.

AGENDA
Approved Member Cederquist moved to approve the revised agenda; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

MINUTES
Approved Member Cederquist moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2004; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

EMPLOYEE OF THE
MONTH This month the Fresno County Office of Education and the Fresno County Board of Education are proud to honor Debra Zuber as the October 2004 Employee of the Month. Debra is a Court Schools Teacher at Violet Heintz Education Academy.

Debra creates a cooperative learning climate that is totally student-centered in her classroom. She has the skill of being able to connect with "At-Risk" students at Violet Heintz Education Academy. Her lessons are meaningful. She has the ability to connect positively with her students by encouraging learning, using various methods of motivational techniques that include activities with active participation providing equal access to the curriculum for all students; connecting community to classroom activities, and engaging with and supporting all students in learning.

With all of these qualities, Debra also excels above and beyond the call of her responsibilities as a teacher. When called on to do extra activities the kids, Debra was involved with organizing extra curriculum activities like Halloween's Pumpkin Days and Christmas's Reindeer Games. The students see Mrs. Zuber excited about the celebrations we have established at VHEA. Having teachers actively involved with student activity fosters a climate where students feel like they are truly in a school, and not a prison! Mrs. Zuber has made every effort in making the experience here at VHEA for all of her students a positive one, and not negative!

For these reasons and many more, it is with sincere appreciation that we present this certificate to Debra Zuber. Congratulations, Debra for a job well done.

Mrs. Zuber expressed her appreciation for having been honored as the employee of the month.

Superintendent Mehas praised Ken Campbell for employing quality staff at Court & Community Schools and congratulated Mrs. Zuber for personifying the quality of excellent teachership at Court & Community Schools.

MOVED TO:
SPECIAL
PRESENTATION
Scout Island

Dr. Gary Sells gave an update on the instructional presentation infrastructure in the assembly room at Scout Island. The installation was completed September 9th. Through the combined efforts of Dr. Serabian, Jack

Pamboochian, and Chris Davis there was a \$28,000.00 savings in the construction of the presentation room.

Dr. Art Serabian navigated the board and audience through the Scout Island website and gave an overview of the goals in the features and design of the website.

President Clyde and Vice President Eubanks asked questions about the use of on-line registration at the facility, last minute changes to reservations, and the curriculum areas that are covered at the facility.

Mr. Stephen Bock navigated the board and audience through the section of the website containing all of the different curricula areas. In each curricula area the following are the resources available: PRE-TRIP information and activities to assist the teachers in familiarizing their students with the content they'll be working on at Scout Island; AT SCOUT ISLAND ACTIVITIES that can be done at the learning stations set up at Scout Island; POST TRIP activities which are a on-line resource to reinforce what the students learned while at Scout Island; a STANDARDS MATRIX chart that shows teachers how the lessons correlate with a given grades content standards; and other RESOURCES available to teachers and students before and after their trip to Scout Island.

Member Tannenbaum asked about the availability of Scout Island staff on the days teachers and students will be on site. Dr. Sells stated that currently he and John Soliz are the only staff at Scout Island. He explained further that Scout Island is meant to be used as an extension of the teacher's classroom. The teachers arriving with their students will use the presentation room and rest of the facility as tools to teach. He also stated that he encourages all inquiring users to meet with him at Scout Island prior to bringing a group to the facility. His hope is to familiarize them with the possible uses of the facility.

Member Tannenbaum recalled previous discussions on having an archaeological dig area. She asked if an archaeological dig area was still a part of the development plan. She also asked about teaching staff available to visitors.

Superintendent Mehas responded by stating that staffing beyond Dr. Sells and Mr. Soliz is not planned. He suggested developing a cadre of docents/student docents to facilitate to some degree. Superintendent Mehas also said that there would be an archaeological dig. Docents may be called on to come out and prepare the dig area prior to teachers and their students arriving. He also explained the need to do staff development with those wanting to bring groups out to use the facility. In addition, there is need to develop a crew of volunteers that would assist in setting up certain areas of the facility prior to groups arriving.

Member Eubanks explained that teachers must be prepared to teach their class prior to taking their students, and that there is a direct and intentional reason to take students to the Scout Island. Teachers take their students with the intent to teach.

Member Tannenbaum asked if it was the intention of FCOE to make staffing accommodations for groups bringing students with special needs.

Member Thomas explained that when teachers bring special education students to the facility, those teachers are well aware of the need to properly staff their outing. They are the most prepared to deal with what students can and cannot do. She also explained that when a special education program decides to provide an educational opportunity for their students requiring other specialists, the program hires the proper specialists and incurs the cost for the extra staffing.

Member Tannenbaum asked about collaboration with other agencies like Fish and Game, who as an extension of their agencies goals, might be able to provide some staff at Scout Island. Dr. Sells offered to call multiple agencies to see what kind interest they may have.

Deputy Superintendent Collins will be mailing Scout Island brochures to all of the district superintendents. He distributed the same brochures to the board members. He commended Dr. Sells, Dr. Serabian and Stephen Bock for all of the hard work they have put into the Scout Island website and instructional infrastructure presentation room.

Dr. Sells thanked the President and the board for the opportunity to present the developments of the Scout Island project.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 2:30 p.m. and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

MOVED TO:
COURT &
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

Report - Network of
Educator Astronaut
Teachers Workshop

Ken Campbell introduced Daniel Loewen, Court Schools teacher. After applying to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Educator Astronaut Program in August of 2003, Mr. Loewen was invited to participate in NASA's Network of Educator Astronaut Teachers. With the use of a Power Point presentation Mr. Loewen provided the board with an overview of the three-day workshop he attended at the Johnson Space Center in June of 2004. NASA has asked for permission to continue to train the program participants and to have participants provide in-service training in their areas. They would like for schools and other teachers to benefit from the knowledge. All curriculum materials would be entirely funded by NASA.

Adoption of
Resolution No.
2004-28, Character
Counts Proclamation
Approved

The Board and Superintendent congratulated Mr. Loewen on his accomplishments.

Member Eubanks moved to approve the adoption of resolution No. 2004-28, Character Counts Proclamation designating October 17-23, 2004 as Character Counts Week; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.

Approval of Court &
Community School
Handbooks
Approved

Member Cederquist moved to approve Court & Community School handbooks; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

MOVED TO:
SCHOOL LIBRARY
& MEDIA SERVICES

Media for Adoption
Approved

Member Tannenbaum moved to approve the audio/visual media as presented; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

MOVED TO:
EXPULSION APPEAL
HEARING

Fresno Unified
School District
(Closed Session)

The hearing was called to order at 3:10 pm. Those present at the hearing included: student, sibling, parent; Debra Garabedian, Legal Counsel, Fresno County Office of Education; Kevin Torosian, Administrative Manager, Fresno Unified School District.

Deliberations

Board members sought responses from those present.

The Board moved into deliberations at 3:20p.m. and reconvened into closed sessions at 3:20 p.m.
Member Cederquist moved to uphold the expulsion; motion seconded by Member Eubanks;

ROLL CALL:

Member Cederquist	Y
Member Eubanks	Y
Member Tannenbaum	Y
Member Thomas	Y
President Clyde	Y

DECISION TO
UPHOLD THE
EXPULSION

Motion carried. The Board upheld the expulsion of the student.

Open Session

MOVED TO:

ADMINISTRATION
Adoption of Resolution
No. 2004-27, University
of California Medical
Center
Approved

The Board reconvened into open session at 3:21 p.m.

Member Tannenbaum moved to approve Resolution No. 2004-27, promoting the location of the University of California Medical Center in Fresno; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

MOVED TO:

HUMAN RESOURCES/
LEGAL/CREDENTIAL
Civil Claim
Denied

Member Cederquist moved to deny the civil claim brought forth by Houa Lee on the basis that we have not been able to establish any employment relationship between the driver, vehicle and the County Office; seconded by Member Tannenbaum, motion carried.

MOVED TO:

BUSINESS SERVICES
Adoption of Resolution
No. 2004-26, Various
State Funding
Application
Approved

Member Tannenbaum moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-26, Various State Funding Applications; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

Authorization to File the
Final Application to
Enter Into an Agreement
with the State of CA –
Extend Medicare to
Certificated Employees
Whom Elected
Coverage
Approved

Member Thomas moved to authorize the filing of the Final Application to Enter Into Agreement with the Sate of California to Extend Medicare to Certificated Employees who elect the coverage; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.

Authorization to Bid
and Award Contract for

Recreation Area at Teilman Educational Center Approved	Member Cederquist moved to authorize the Bid and Award Contract for recreation area at Teilman Educational Center; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.
Acknowledge Receipt of Annual Disclosure of FCOE's Investment Policies Approved	Member Cederquist moved to acknowledge the receipt of Annual Disclosure of FCOE's Investment Policies; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.
MOVED TO: TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES	
Approval of Meetings to Attend	None.
Approval of Travel Expenses by Board Members	None.
CCBE Legislator of the Year 2004 Award Nominations	Member Thomas opened for discussion the nomination of a CCBE Legislator of the Year for 2004. No nominations were made.
CSBA Call for Nomination of Delegate at Large	The Board discussed a possible nominee for the Delegate at Large. The Board had wanted to recommend Dr. Oscar Sablan for the position. Due to current commitments, Dr. Sablan was unable to accept the nomination.
Board Project	Member Cederquist asked Board members and Cabinet to consider a board project to discuss at the October board meeting.
Receipt of Correspondence	None.
Comments by Board Members	Member Tannenbaum complimented Jennifer Quinn and her committee on the College Night event. Member Tannenbaum described the All Staff Day event as wonderful and commended all of the coordinators on a job well done. Member Thomas explained that she will testify at a California Commission hearing. Her position will be in support of County Offices with some regionalization of County Offices. She asked Fresno County Board members to discuss their position on the issue. Member Thomas received unanimous approval from the Board in support of County Offices with some regionalization. President Clyde inquired about the Mayor's Committee Fifth Annual Collaborative Awareness Conference.
MOVED TO: SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	Superintendent Mehas reported on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Board Member's stipend was increased by 5% from \$418.00 to \$438.90 beginning September 2004.▪ Williams Settlement – Don Collins, Jan Biggs & Dan Pietro are all working on a proposal for how FCOE will record the information they obtain while fulfilling the mandates of the Williams Settlement. The intent is to create a template that will be used as guide by the County Office indicating how it will

adhere to the requirements of reviewing the schools in deciles 1-3. Once this instrument is in place and a proposal for staffing has been established, Superintendent Mehas will report to the Board. The State will reimburse at \$3000.00 per school identified as deciles 1-3.

- Charter Schools – An audit was done by FCOE on the attendance of the Charters under the direction of Derrick Spiva. As a result, FCOE sent a letter to the State of CA recommending a state audit. The results of the State audit discovered that Mr. Spiva currently owes the state over \$300,000.00 for over reporting attendance. Superintendent Mehas brought in an outside auditor from San Jose to perform another audit checking on attendance reporting, business practices, and control of finances. Dr. Pietro sent the results of the audit to the State. Superintendent Mehas intends to reject Mr. Spiva’s budget. He is currently refusing to meet with him until he hears from the State of CA on the issues at hand. The Board asked Superintendent Mehas to suggest whom they should address their charter school concerns to. He suggested communications to be sent to State Superintendent Jack O’Connell.
- Regional Educational Initiative – The Business Council came to the Compact and presented the idea of a regional educational initiative. Superintendent Mehas inquired as to the authority the regional educational initiative has. He also asked how they were going to interact with the local elected school boards. Superintendent Mehas encouraged Pete Weber to go to the Fresno County School Trustees Association to begin communications about their plans as anything they do will eventually have to come back to the duly elected school boards.
- FUSD – Superintendent Buster and Paul Disario have sent a letter to the union asking them to come to the table to negotiate. They have not responded and FTA hired an auditor from the East Coast to audit FUSD. All involved are aware that the timeline to take action is short. If the union does not negotiate it will be highly possible that the State will have to take over FUSD.

None.

COMMUNITY INPUT

None.

FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS

Personnel

CLOSED SESSION

Moved to adjourn at 4:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

/et