

MINUTES
October 21, 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, External Communications; Elizabeth Torres, Board Secretary.
- Visitors: Elaine Sotiropulos, Pam McGee, Ron LoForti, Joy Uyeki, Linda Siebel, Susan Ikemiya, Nancy Masich, Josh Espinoza, Connie Lara, Lon Wetter, Carmel Draper, Marie Gerten, Angela Bowlin, Susan Halpern, Don Holder, Keri Ervin, Terry Ogden, Stephen Bock, Jake Bloodworth, Jeanie Tomasseti, and Carl Veeter.
- AGENDA Member Cederquist moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.
Approved
- MINUTES Member Thomas moved to approve the minutes of September 16, 2004; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.
Approved
- EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH For more than four years there has been a Fresno County Office of Education employee working tirelessly throughout the districts in our county providing an extremely important service to students in our county. A genuine smile, friendly words and a true sense of community characterize our November 2004 Employee of the Month, Elaine Sotiropulos.
- Elaine joined the AVID Team in January 2000, and immediately became indispensable to both the teachers and colleagues she serves. AVID works with over 95 schools in a six-county region (50 of them in Fresno County alone). Elaine is a super-organizer; she keeps us all on track with deadlines for workshops, registrations for training, and “backwards mapping” to be sure all will be ready for any situation our teachers or students may encounter.
- Elaine professionally handles a caseload of 28 schools for which she is the support provider with on-going site visits, she provides direct training for teachers, as well as offers program assistance. In addition to all this, Elaine makes time each week to tutor a student she began working with in Sanger Unified over five years ago. This student is now in high school, and although she will not tell you so, she has picked him up from school, taken him for appointments, and even searched out and found a computer for him when he had none at home.
- Elaine attends parent and student celebration nights at many of her schools on her own time, and she is the “go-to” person in her church and family. She and her husband Kopi have volunteered countless hours for FCOE, community, and school events over the years.
- Elaine embodies the positive spirit, dedication, and expertise for which the Fresno County Office of Education wishes to be best known in our county community. Her integrity and passion inspire those around her each day. For these reasons and more, the Fresno County Office of Education and the Fresno County Board of Education are proud to honor you as the Employee of the Month.

Thank you for your dedication and service as a non-stop volunteer for both the schools and community, and for being a cheerleader for what is right for kids always. It is with sincere appreciation that we present this certificate to you today for a job well done. Congratulations.

Mrs. Sotiropulis expressed her appreciation for the recognition and thanked her employer and co-workers for their support of her work.

Superintendent Mehas expressed appreciation for Elaine's caring attitude, personal accomplishments in AVID and collaboration with other FCOE departments.

Deputy Superintendent Collins shared the story of how the Fresno County Office recruited Elaine from Washington Academic Middle School in Sanger, and how a Sanger administrator recently expressed how much she was missed. Elaine's skills and abilities are easily recognized by all those she works with.

RECESS

1:44 p.m. to 1:53

**MOVED TO:
FRESNO ROP**

Minutes of May 19,
2004 of the ROP
Advisory Board of
Management Regular
Meeting
Ratified

Member Cederquist moved to ratify the minutes of the May 19, 2004 ROP Advisory Board of Management Regular Meeting; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

Fresno ROP Annual
Report 2003-04/Blue
Print 2004-05

Nancy Masich, Administrator, Fresno ROP, presented the new Annual Report 2003-04/Blue Print 2004-05.

There was discussion on accomplishments and challenges.

Nancy Masich announced the retirement of her assistant Joy Uyeki.

Joy Uyeki expressed gratitude and enjoyment for time she has spent working for the County Office.

**MOVED TO:
LEGAL/CREDENTIALS/
HUMAN RESOURCES**

Civil Claim Dukes
Denied

Member Thomas moved to deny the civil claim brought forth by Lisa A. Dukes; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.

**MOVED TO:
BUSINESS SERVICES**

Authorization to Bid for
New Vans for Special
Education
Approved

Member Thomas moved to approve the request to Bid for New Vans for Special Education; seconded by Member Eubanks ; motion carried.

Ratify Bid Award &
Contract w/Durham
Construction Company
for Recreation Area
Improvements at Teilman

Member Tannenbaum moved to authorize Bid No. C2004-04 and Award Contract w/Durham Construction Company, the lowest responsible bidder, for the Recreation Area Improvements at Teilman Educational Center; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.

Educational Center
Approved

Authorization to go to Bid
a Playground at Monte
Vista School
Approved

Member Cederquist moved to approve the request to go to Bid for a New Playground at Monte Vista School; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

Authorization to go to Bid
a New Covered Walkway
at Beth Ramacher
Educational Complex
Approved

Member Cederquist moved to go to Bid a New Covered Walkway at Beth Ramacher Educational Complex; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution
No. 2004-30, Federal
Surplus Property Program
Approved

Member Eubanks moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-30, Federal Surplus Property Program; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution
No. 2004-29, 2003-04
Actual and 2004-05
Estimated Appropriations
Limit (Gann)
Approved

Member Cederquist moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-29, 2003-04 Actual and 2004-05 Estimated Appropriations Limit (Gann); seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

Acknowledge Receipt of
Annual Disclosure of
FCOE's Retirement Health
Benefits
Acknowledged

Member Cederquist moved to acknowledge receipt of FCOE's Actuarial Analysis of Retiree Health Benefits and that the information made may be available to the public; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

**MOVED TO:
TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES**

Approval of Meetings
to Attend
Approved

Member Tannenbaum requested to attend the Civic Education Forum on October 25, 2004.

Member Cederquist moved to approve Member Tannenbaum's attendance at the Civic Education Forum on October 25, 2004; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

Approval of Trustees
Association Dues
Payment
Approved

Member Cederquist moved to approve the payment of Fresno County School Trustees Association Dues (\$450.00); seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

Approval of Travel
Expenses by Board
Members

None

Board Project 2005

Deputy Superintendent Collins reported on the programs that have responded to participating as a Board Project. The following are the programs:

- Math on Call
- Pentathlon
- Employee Health Center

- Elementary Obesity
- Service Learning Research Pilot Study
- Stories of Service
- Early Identification Program

The Board unanimously declared interest in supporting a program that would utilize the Scout Island facility.

The Board unanimously decided to pursue the following programs for more information:

Pentathlon – Incorporating the high school grade students
Elementary Obesity – P.E. training for classroom teachers
Stories of Service

Deputy Superintendent Collins will contact the presenters and make them aware of the request to present at the November board meeting.

Receipt of
Correspondence

None.

Comments by Board
Members

Member Cederquist mentioned looking forward to the Scout Island Dedication. He also mentioned that David Pollock, President of CSBA gave a great presentation at the Trustees' October Dinner meeting.

Member Eubanks and Member Tannenbaum made positive remarks on the Literacy Summit event.

Member Eubanks asked Superintendent Mehas about a letter coming from the County Board to Jack O'Connell on stricter guidelines for Charter Schools. Superintendent Mehas said that the correspondence would go out after the election.

Member Thomas asked if County Board Members would be going out to school sites with the evaluation teams that the County Office is putting together to follow through with the requirements of the Williams Settlement. Superintendent Mehas explained that after the teams are assembled and a school visitation schedule is developed, the Board will be given opportunity to participate.

Member Tannenbaum mentioned that FCOE employee Pam McGee presented in her classroom and did a superb job. She went on to say that Ms. McGee is a good ambassador for the County Office and that she was happy for her nomination of administrator of the year.

MOVED TO:
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Mehas reported on the following items:

- Scout Island Dedication: One of President Clyde's opponents is claiming that the purchase of the Scout Island and Kermit Koontz facilities was a waist of money. Reporters asked Superintendent Mehas to comment. He explained that the County Office to date had not received one letter of opposition on the purchase of either facility. Superintendent Mehas mentioned to the Board, those who would be honored and recognized for their involvement with Scout Island.
- Fresno Unified Budget Status/FCMAT: Superintendent Mehas, Deputy Superintendent Pietro, Paul DeSario and Walter Buster met to discuss the FUSD situation. Jack O'Connell was unable to meet with them. Superintendent Mehas was able to meet with State Superintendent O'Connell on another day he was in Fresno. At this time they discussed and came to an agreement on how they would handle the FUSD situation. They discussed potential state administrators that might be appointed to FUSD in the event of a State takeover.

- Williams Settlement: Evaluation teams are being formed and a template is being created to fulfill the requirements of the Williams Settlement. Superintendent Mehas explained that after the teams are assembled and a school visitation schedule is developed, the Board will be given opportunity to participate.
- School District Organization Study Status: The Superintendent's office received a call asking whether the study would eventually lead to the split of FUSD. Superintendent Mehas made it clear that the study is the responsibility of the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization. He further explained that there will be no binding commitments on anyone. The study is a gathering of data that will be presented to the communities. Any charge would require an election.
- Library Summit: There was a concerted effort to have Central, Clovis, and Fresno Unified heavily involved in the Summit. Superintendent Mehas read a letter from Kerry Nakagawa of the NISEI Baseball Research Project thanking him for the award he received at the Library Summit. He read a second letter sent to Deputy Superintendent Collins from Robert Monke of the Brick Campaign, thanking him for his support of the Brick display project at the Fresno Fair.
- Measure Z: Superintendent Mehas invited Board Members to a press conference scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2004 at 1:00 pm at Ramacher School.
- High School Summit in Sacramento: Superintendent Mehas and several FCOE staff will be attending. The summit's focus will be on achievement in the high schools.
- FCSTA Dinner Meeting: Sierra did a super job. Mr. David Pollock gave a great speech that was relevant to Fresno County's current issues. Superintendent Mehas commended Board Secretary, Elizabeth Torres for doing a great job since in the position of Secretary to the Board and Trustees Association.
- Staff Development for Support Staff of Educational Services: Superintendent Mehas commended Teresa Trevino and Deputy Superintendent Collins for the conference they organized for the Support Staff of Educational Services. As a result of such a successful event, the program may be expanded to all County Staff in 2005.

COMMUNITY INPUT

None

FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel

ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

/et