

MINUTES
March 16, 2006

- CALL TO ORDER** President Cederquist called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and an inspirational reading led by Larry Powell.
- ATTENDANCE** Members present: President Delbert Cederquist, Vice President Dr. Sally Tannenbaum, and Members Barbara Thomas, Keith Eubanks, and Dr. Allen Clyde.
- Participating staff: Superintendent Peter G. Mehas; Deputy Superintendents Larry L. Powell and Richard A. Martin; Jan Biggs, Senior Administrator to the Superintendent, Legal Services; and Elizabeth Torres, Board Secretary.
- Absent: Armen Bacon, Senior Director to the Superintendent, External Communications.
- Visitors: Patty Lehman, Faye Kandarian, Stephanie Lev, Jerry Tullis, Shirley Hargis, Angela Bowlin, Linda Sibel, Patty Lopez, Alesha Moreno-Ramirez, Dr. Don Holder, Pam McGee, Judy Dorn, Mary Arriaga, Jesse Bloodworth, Randy Mehrten, Michelle Roman, Claudia Lopez, Maria Rodriguez, Sue La Hargoue, Jorge Arvizu, Jamie Perry, Sue Hunsbarger, Cathy Crichley, Suzie Barela, Laurie Gabriel, Susan Halbert, Elaine Sotiropulos, Charlene Samuelian, and Kathy Ramirez.
- AGENDA**
Approved Member Eubanks moved to approve the revised agenda as presented; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.
- MINUTES**
Approved Member Clyde moved to approve the February 16, 2006 minutes; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.
- EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH** Patty Lehman, Humanities Coordinator, has been a stronghold at FCOE for 12 years. During her tenure with FCOE, Patty has demonstrated strong leadership in not only Language Arts but also in History/Social Science and Visual & Performing Arts. She demonstrates shared leadership by her efforts as a team player at the department level, in the County and in the State.
- Due to Patty's initiative, teachers and students in Fresno County schools have benefited in multiple ways. Patty's vision for the Literacy Institute was created and funded for several years through a grant. In 2001, it achieved the California School Boards Association's "Golden Bell Award," which recognizes exemplary and sustainable programs focused on student achievement. The Literacy Institute offers training to a hundred teachers each year. Additionally, the Literacy Institute offers support to educators in their efforts to provide academically rich classrooms, not only through fulfilling their requirements for AB 466 but more importantly through equipping them with the strategies needed to meet the demanding needs of California's diverse students.
- Patty also brought the Spell-Off back to the County and yearly coordinates the Young Author's Faire, giving students the opportunity to write for authentic purposes.
- Patty's efforts do not stop there. She also serves as Region 7 Language Arts Lead, representing six counties at the State level. She was part of the California Reading Initiative Committee, which was responsible for bringing RICA, content standards, and frameworks to the State. She keeps the County teachers abreast of the latest advances in literacy and continues to provide opportunities like the State Vocabulary forum and the Early Assessment Program (a partnership with the CSU to bridge the gap between high school and college).

Moreover, Patty's assistance with special events such as History Day, Mock Trial, and Martin Luther King Day give young people in our county the opportunity to stretch their learning beyond the classroom and to showcase their talents in remarkable ways. Patty has networked with key leaders in the community to coordinate highly successful events in each of these three areas, while still meeting the Language Arts needs of Fresno County Office of Education.

Patty demonstrates a "We can do it!" attitude and carefully scaffolds her staff to accomplish the tasks required to provide the best services to our County schools. She is quick to "share the glory" for her accomplishments with her co-workers and to find a reason to celebrate successes even while tackling a challenging project. Patty's dedication to providing the best educational opportunities to area teachers continues to create "raving fans" for Fresno County Office of Education. For these reasons and many more we are proud to honor Patty Lehman as the Employee of the Month!

Ms. Lehman thanked Superintendent Mehas and the Board for recognizing her as the March 2006 Employee of the Month. She also thanked Superintendent Mehas for granting her the creative freedom and support that have enabled her to introduce so many wonderful programs to the students, teachers, and administrators of Fresno County. Ms. Lehman recognized her staff for having contributed to her success. Ms. Lehman introduced her friends and family present.

Superintendent Mehas thanked Ms. Lehman and stated that it is exciting to work with people with vision.

Board Members also thanked Ms. Lehman and stated that they admired her for her leadership.

MOVED TO:
EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES
Supplemental
Educational Services
Update

Deputy Superintendent Larry Powell introduced Jorge Arvizu, Coordinator for Supplemental Educational Services (SES). Mr. Arvizu invited Randy Mehrten, Director of Safe & Healthy Kids to brief the Board on the uniqueness of the youth mentoring aspect of the SES model. Mr. Arvizu presented on the following:

- FCOE Learning Academy Background
- NCLB, ASIST/C& I, SES Provider Fair, Parent Choice
- Expectations
- Community Partners
- Staffing
- Program Schedule
- Training
- Student Folder: Balanced Literacy
- Language Development
- Learner Link
- Balanced Instruction with HOSTS
- Program Procedures
- Operations
- Academy Opening
- Assessment Reports
- Program Development
- 06-07 Projections
- Reflections

Board Members asked questions of Mr. Arvizu.

Superintendent Mehas complimented Randy Mehrten on his continuous application of student mentorship in all of the programs in the Safe & Healthy Kids department.

RECESS

The board recessed to celebrate the employee of the month at 2:05 p.m. and reconvened at 2:20 p.m.

Adoption of Resolution
No. 2006-08, Week of the
Young Child, April 2-8
2006

Member Clyde moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-08, Week of the Young Child, April 2-8, 2006; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Approved

MOVED TO:
CURRICULUM &
INSTRUCTION

Adoption of Resolution
No. 2006-07, Observance
of Cesar Chavez Day,
March 31, 2006

Member Thomas moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-07, Observance of Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning, March 31, 2006; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Approved

MOVED TO:
BUSINESS SERVICES

Quarterly Disclosure of
FCOE's Investment
Policies

Deputy Superintendent Richard A. Martin presented the Quarterly Disclosure of the Fresno County Office of Education's Investment Policies.

Approval of Hume Lake
Charter School Petition
Approved

Deputy Superintendent Martin stated that per Education Code 47605, the Fresno County Board of Education shall either grant or deny the charter petition of Human Lake Charter School. He further stated that on December 15, 2005 all County Board Members were given a copy of the charter petition and that a committee was immediately created to review the petition. The areas of expertise represented on the committee were Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education, Business Services, Facilities, and Legal Services. After careful review of the charter petition the Administration and the Charter Review Committee recommend the Board grant a 3-year approval to the Hume Lake Charter School Petition upon the signing of the operating agreement. The Operating Agreement is expected to be in final draft form by mid-week the week of March 20th. Mr. Martin introduced Mark Zasso, lead petitioner and on site Director of Hume Lake Charter School.

Mr. Zasso introduced Jeff Lilley, Executive Director of Hume Lake Christian Camps, Jeff Sands, Grant Writer, and Debbie Plouffe Lead Administrator and Teacher of Hume Lake Charter.

The Board asked questions of the Hume Lake Charter petitioners.

Member Eubanks moved to approve the petition of Hume Lake Charter; seconded by Member Clyde;

ROLL CALL:

Member Clyde Y

Member Thomas Y

Member Tannenbaum Y

Member Eubanks Y

President Cederquist Y

motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The board approved the Hume Lake Charter petition.

MOVED TO:
EXPULSION APPEAL
HEARING

Fowler Unified
School District
(Closed Session)

The hearing was called to order at 2:30 p.m. Those present at the hearing included: student, brother, parents, and Lucille King, Fowler USD Director of Instructional Services & Interpreter; Jan M. Biggs, Senior Administrator to the Superintendent, Fresno County Office of Education; Tommi R. Saghatelian, Counsel for Fowler USD; Superintendent John Cruz, Fowler USD; Dr. Mark Archon, Principal of Sutter Middle School; and Glenn Billington, Administrative Panel Chair.

Board members sought responses from those present.

Deliberations

The Board moved into deliberations at 2:55 p.m. and reconvened into closed session at 3:00 p.m.

Member Clyde moved to uphold the expulsion; motion seconded by Member Eubanks;

ROLL CALL:

Member Clyde Y

Member Thomas Y

Member Tannenbaum Y

Member Eubanks Y

President Cederquist Y

DECISION TO UPHOLD
THE EXPULSION

motion carried. The board moved to uphold the expulsion of the student.

The Board reconvened to open session at 3:01 p.m.

MOVE TO:
TRUSTEES ACTIVITIES

Approval of Meetings
to Attend
Approved

Member Clyde moved to approve Member Thomas and President Cederquist's request to attend the Delegate Assembly meeting May 6-7, 2006; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Approval of Mileage
Reimbursement
Approved

Member Thomas moved to approve a mileage reimbursement for Member Eubanks for January – February 2006 in the amount of \$213.60; seconded by Member Clyde; motion carried.

Green Meadows
Visitation Date

Board members discussed potential dates for a visitation to the Jack L. Boyd Outdoor School. The two potential dates agreed upon were May 16 or May 23, 2006.

Receipt of
Correspondence

Members received a correspondence containing a copy of a Superior Court decision in a case from Central Unified School District.

Comments by
Board Members

Member Clyde asked about ongoing negotiations with Sprint. Senior Administrator Jan Biggs gave the Board a brief overview of the final contract.

Member Clyde updated the board on his communications Dale Marshall of the California Department of Fish & Game. They are interested in visiting Scout Island to see how they can involve themselves in improving Pirates Cove. Superintendent Mehas asked Member Clyde to arrange a visit at which Member Clyde would be present.

Member Clyde asked Superintendent Mehas for an update on the West Fresno indictments. Superintendent Mehas gave the Board a brief update.

MOVED TO:
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Mehas reported on the following:

- CSUF Noted Alumni Dinner: April 20, 2006, 6:00 p.m., Armen Bacon will be honored as a Noted Alumni. Elizabeth Torres to send Board RSVPs to Charlotte Nunn.
- Burrel Union Elementary Teacher: Mrs. Funk has been recognized for heading up a service learning project with her students to aid the Hurricane Katrina victims.
- Parlier USD Update: Fernando Elizondo has assumed the position of Interim-Superintendent of Parlier USD. FCOE is receiving cooperation with the Superintendent and the School Board. A board member was placed on three weeks unpaid leave.
- West Fresno Performing Arts Academy: The Academy owes \$2.3 million to their creditors.
- MAP Study Update: The FCCSDO intends to conduct public hearings throughout the County over the next 9-10 months. Their next meeting is March 28, 2006 at FCOE at 5:15 p.m. in room 301.

COMMUNITY INPUT

None.

FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned meeting at 4:05p.m.

/et