

MINUTES
September 21, 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 Armen Bacon.
- ATTENDANCE Members Present: President Delbert Cederquist, Vice President Sally Tannenbaum and Members Barbara Thomas, Keith Eubanks and Dr. Allen Clyde.
- Participating staff: Superintendent Larry L. Powell; Deputy Superintendents Jim Yovino and Richard A. Martin; Armen D. Bacon, Senior Director to the Superintendent, External Communications; Jan M. Biggs, Senior Administrator to the Superintendent, Support Services; and Elizabeth Torres, Board Secretary.
- Visitors: Kathy Ramirez, Jim Ramirez (husband), Verna Chester (mother), Maria Rodriguez, Claudia Lopez, Mike Robinson, Dave Swain, Sybil Kolbert, Janelle Martin, Patty Salinas, Linda Sibel, Angela Bowlin, Susie Barela, Karla Chandler, Steve Bock, Keri Ervin, Linda Shelton, Pam Hancock, and Gary Sells.
- AGENDA
Approved Member Thomas moved to approve the September 21, 2006 agenda as presented; seconded by Member Clyde; motion carried.
- MINUTES
Approved Member Clyde moved to approve the August 17, 2006 minutes; motion died for lack of a second.
- Member Eubanks asked for a correction in the August 17, 2006 minutes. He clarified that on the issue of the naming of the 1111 Van Ness Building, the minutes should have read, “the Fresno County Office of Education lettering should be placed above the lettering Dr. Peter G. Mehas Center and that the Dr. Peter G. Mehas Center lettering should be smaller than the Fresno County Office of Education lettering.
- Member Eubanks also requested that the item on the September 21, 2006 agenda titled Administration, be moved after Superintendent’s Report.
- Member Tannenbaum moved to approve Member Eubanks requests to change the August 17, 2006 minutes and September 21, 2006agenda; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.
- Mr. Biggs stated that he was not sure Member Eubanks request on the placement of lettering on the building could be accommodated due to the configuration of the facility.
- President Cederquist said that the matter would be discussed at greater length during the Superintendent’s report.
- EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH Staff working along side Kathy Ramirez would agree that the “Ever Ready Bunny” has nothing on Kathy! The phrases “pace yourself” and “all in a days work” do not even come close to characterizing Kathy. The term “peddle to the metal” does!
- Kathy is one of the most dedicated and hard working employees PPS/FCOE has ever seen. Her work ethic alone sets her apart; however, this trait is just the beginning when it comes to this multi-talented woman. During the five years Kathy has been the Administrative Assistant in the PPS Department she has assumed many leadership positions in her community and has gone back to college taking coursework with an emphasis in psychology.
- Kathy has assisted in training and mentoring many new PPS/FCOE employees. Kathy is a fabulous

cook; she traveled to Africa on a mission of mercy only to return saying “I received more from the people than I gave.”

Through all of Kathy’s personal and professional experiences, she has an amazing sense of patience, acceptance and tolerance for any situation. This is evident in everything she does. She is committed, energetic, caring and a team player. Kathy’s administrative skills are top notch. She was instrumental in converting the PPS archival system for student records from paper records to electronic records. In addition, her knowledge of computers has helped improve the PPS Department’s organization, efficiency and production.

Kathy’s commitment to PPS staff and FCOE at large goes beyond what is expected. It is a pleasure to be associated with a person of her caliber. These are but a few of the reasons Kathy deserves the honor of Employee of the Month.

Congratulations Kathy for being a true catalyst for PPS and the students in Fresno County! We are proud to honor you!

Ms. Ramirez thanked Dave Swain, Mike Robinson and other FCOE co-workers for their support and encouragement. She also thanked her mother and husband for their support.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 1:45 p.m. for the employee of the month reception and reconvened at 1:55 p.m.

MOVED TO:
HUMAN RESOURCES
Adoption of Resolution
No. 2006-29, Early
Retirement PERS,
Southwest Transportation
Agency, 11/1/06-1/31/07
Approved

Member Thomas moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-29, Early Retirement PERS, Southwest Transportation Agency 11/1/06 – 1/31/07; seconded by Member Clyde; motion carried.

MOVED TO:
SPECIAL
PRESENTATION
Update from Department
of Fish & Game Re:
Water at Scout Island

Member Clyde introduced the following presenters from the Department of Fish and Game: Dale Mitchell, Environmental Regional Manager, Julie Means, Senior Environmental Scientist, and Robin Madrid, Biologist. Dr. Gary Sells and the Fish and Game team have been dialoging about a series of features and curriculum that could be used at Scout Island. They presented on the following:

- Ms. Means reviewed the CEQIA documents done on Scout Island regarding water rights. Ms. Means wrote a letter to FCOE in which she explains that David Le Brie of the State Control Board Water Rights System gave her a favorable verbal response regarding diverting water through Pirates Creek. Under Riparian Water Rights no further permits are needed to use the San Joaquin River water at Scout Island. Some restrictions are sale of water and storing the water in one place for more than 30 days. The County Office has full rights to use the water so long as the water is used on the land for beneficial purposes.
- Ms. Madrid showed a PowerPoint presentation on the following:
Native vs. Non-Native
Water Quality Sampling (project wild or interpretive panel)
Understanding Watersheds

Nature Journaling
Bird Identification
Mammal Identification
Fish Identification
Animal Tracks
Invasive Plants
Sampling of Aquatic Life
Food Chains & Food Webs
Salmon Life Cycle
Teach the River

Dr. Gary Sells reported on current use of Scout Island to host “Teach the River” and “Fresno-Central Watershed Education Program”, and the outdoor educational resources available to teachers at Scout Island and on the Scout Island website. He thanked the Department of Fish and Game presenters for their partnership and work in helping shape the future of Scout Island.

- Mr. Mitchell showed a PowerPoint presentation on the following points:
Where do we go from here?
Facility water rights and on-site learning features and opportunity.
Need a package or vehicle to get kids to focus on environmental science.
“Scout Island Passport” Concept – a learning vehicle and roadmap to what is out on the river.
Need a logo/symbol that identifies environmental education and catches kids’ attention.
Use technology to develop a network of interactive outdoor education websites – link them in such a way that students are rewarded for moving on to other sites with the ultimate goal of receiving some type of award or credit.

Board members asked questions. There was some discussion regarding potential future uses of Scout Island and the ideas shared by Mr. Mitchell. There was much emphasis on the use of technology and involving students in the development of such a program. Superintendent Powell welcomed future conversations.

Member Clyde requested the Fish and Game presenters return in three months to report on the progress.

MOVED TO:

SUPPORT SERVICES

Civil Claim – Advanced
Worldwide Security
Solutions, Inc.

Member Tannenbaum moved to deny the civil claims brought forth by Advanced Worldwide Security Solutions, Inc.; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

Denied

Transfer of Ownership of
Certain Buildings in
Sierra USD

Member Tannenbaum moved to approve Transfer of Ownership of Certain Buildings in Sierra USD; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

Approved

Adoption of Resolution
No. 2006-38, Various
State Funding
Applications

Member Thomas moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-28, Authorized Signators, Various State Funding Applications; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Approved

MOVED TO:
BUSINESS SERVICES

Receipt of Annual
Disclosure of FCOE's
Investment Policies

Member Clyde moved to acknowledge the receipt of Annual Disclosure of FCOE's Investment Policies; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried.

Acknowledged

Addition of Emergency
Item to the Agenda,
"Selma Learning Academy
Charter School Notice of
Cure"

Member Clyde moved to add to the September 21, 2006 agenda emergency item Selma Learning Academy Charter School Notice of Cure; seconded by Member Eubanks;

Addition Approved

ROLL CALL

Member Clyde	Yes
Member Thomas	Yes
Member Tannenbaum	Yes
Member Eubanks	Yes
President Cederquist	Yes

Motion carried. The emergency item was added to the September 21, 2006 agenda.

Deputy Superintendent Rick Martin presented the reasons Superintendent Powell is requesting authorization to issue a Notice to Cure to the Selma Learning Academy Charter.

Board Members asked questions. Superintendent Powell further explained to the Board that the Notice of Cure is an opportunity for Selma to submit a plan to the County Office explaining their ability to succeed. If they do not have an acceptable plan, Superintendent Powell will recommend revocation of the charter at the October 2006 County Board meeting.

Member Clyde moved to authorize Superintendent Powell's action to issue a Notice of Cure to the Selma Learning Academy Charter; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried.

District Financial Services
Website Presentation

Jamie Perry, Senior Director of District Finance explained her goals in her new role. One of her first goals was to create a system of communication with districts that is fluid and efficient. With the help of the Information Systems and Technology department a website was developed that will assist FCOE to provide better service to the districts. She introduced Hou Vang, Information Technology Analyst, who walked the Board and Superintendent through the new website.

MOVED TO COURT &
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

Court Schools Reports

Dr. Lou Telesmanic introduced new Court School Program Manager Robert Postler. He reported on the following:

- Goals for Community Day School students: Increase the collaboration with the referring districts, improve transitional services, and fully implement the SARB process.

3:30 p.m.
Public Hearing

President Cederquist opened the public hearing concerning Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials. President Cederquist read the following: "Let the record show that the public was given a

Regarding Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials reasonable period of time to comment as required by Education Code Sections 60119 and 60422(b) and also the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 9531(c). A hearing opportunity was given for the Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials". The public hearing was closed and no public comment was received.

Adoption of Resolution No. 2006-27, Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials
Approved Member Thomas moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-27, Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials; seconded by Member Clyde; motion carried.

MOVED TO:
TRUSTEES ACTIVITIES

Approval of Meetings to Attend
Approved Member Thomas requested approval to attend a directors meeting for CCBE on Monday, September 25th. Member Tannenbaum moved to approved Member Thomas' attendance; seconded by Member Clyde; motion carried.

Board Project 2006-07
Approved Member Eubanks moved to approve the continuance of Board Project 2005-06, Childhood Obesity Awareness and Reduction as the 2006-07Board Project; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Member Clyde requested results from the districts and or school sites that participated last years project as it relates to API and AYP scores. Ms. Linda Shelton stated that a report could be given at the October 2006 meeting.

Receipt of Correspondence
None.

Comments by Board Members
Member Clyde reported that science will be included in the NCLB legislation.
Member Thomas requested that the board be given notice of annual events the board was traditionally invited to or made aware of by the previous County Superintendent. She also stated the County Office needs to have representation at certain events. Superintendent Powell stated that he agreed with the County Office's representation at events. He also asked Board members to report to him on any critical events that they are aware of and want to attend.

President Cederquist reported that Pat Ricchiuti will be honored as the Chamber's 2006 Agriculturist of the Year on November 2nd at the 25th Annual Agribusiness Management Conference and stated that the County Office should be represented at the event.

Member Eubanks asked to be notified when Governor Schwarzenegger will be in the County.

Mr. Biggs stated that the board secretary would forward a list of events to Superintendent Powell that the previous superintendent traditionally invited the Board to attend.

Member Eubanks asked about the decision regarding the sale of the previous superintendent's vehicle. Superintendent Powell reported on his ideas for the vehicle's use by FCOE.

Member Tannenbaum thanked Member Clyde for bringing the department of Fish and Game presenters.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Powell reported on the following:

- Thought You'd Like to Know – Information sheet which will update the Board on a weekly basis with regard to what is going on at the County Office and school sites.
- New FCOE Website – There will be logos on the website for the District 11 PTA & Trustees Association.
- Superintendent's Advisory Council will now meet for professional development. CVELI will be providing leadership training.
- New Attorney at FCOE - Rob Piacente will start at FCOE in October. Many districts are requesting legal services from the County Office and Mr. Piacente is being hired in anticipation of contacts with districts. In the near future Dwayne Chambers will be joining FCOE part-time.
- Parlier & Golden Plains USD Updates: Deputy Superintendent Rick Martin reported on the financial status for each district.
- Firebaugh USD Update: Superintendent Powell reported that the district is not able to make the next payroll. The district is expecting a bond to bring their cash reserve back to where it needs to be.
- Naming of the Facility: After review and discussion the board decided on the name placement of Dr. Peter G. Mehas Center. It was agreed it should be placed to the right opposite of the current placement of the Fresno County Office of Education on the Van Ness building only.

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent Powell began the discussion and expressed his willingness to withdraw his initial salary proposal and invited discussion on the issue. President Cederquist agreed with the need for discussion. Board members agreed to have Superintendent Powell share first.

Superintendent Powell shared regarding average salaries for superintendents in class II counties. He shared his request of a \$600.00 per month vehicle allowance and health benefits the same as FCOE's management, supervisory and confidential (MSC) staff.

Board members shared their ideas and opinions.

Member Clyde moved to approve the following salary schedule for the Interim Superintendent from 8/1/06 -12/31/06: \$175,000.00 per year, \$600.00 per month for vehicle allowance, and the same health benefits as MSC; seconded by Member Tannenbaum; motion carried.

Board members shared their ideas and opinions regarding the salary for Elected Superintendent.

Member Tannenbaum moved to approve the following salary for the Elected Superintendent beginning 1/1/07 – 12/31/10 with no consideration of a COLA in 2007, review of FCOE budget in December to see actual funds, and an annual review and consideration for a COLA by the Board from 2008 - 2010: \$190,000.00 per year, \$600.00 per month for vehicle allowance, and the same health benefits as MSC; seconded by Member Clyde;

ROLL CALL

Member Clyde Yes

Member Thomas Yes

Member Cederquist Yes

Member Tannenbaum Yes

President Cederquist Yes
Motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA None.
ITEMS

COMMUNITY INPUT None.

ADJOURNEMENT Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

/et