



FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES
May 15, 2008

- CALL TO ORDER** President Thomas called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, followed by an inspirational reading by Armen Bacon.
- ATTENDANCE** Members present: President Barbara Thomas; Vice President Allen Clyde; and Members Keith Eubanks, Sally Tannenbaum and Delbert Cederquist.
- Participating staff: Superintendent Larry L. Powell; Deputy Superintendents Jim Yovino, Educational Services, and Richard A. Martin, Business Services; Armen Bacon, Communications/ Public Relations; Lead Legal Counsel Linda Bacon, Legal Department; and Gloria Ferrer, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.
- AGENDA** Member Eubanks moved to approve the May 15, 2008 agenda; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried unanimously.
- Minutes**
Approved Member Cederquist moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2008 Board meeting; seconded by Member Eubanks; motion carried unanimously.
- EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH** The Fresno County Office of Education May 2008 Employee of the Month is Harmony Negrete. Harmony is a shining example of what is "harmonious" in special education. Her skills as an itinerant Speech and Language Pathologist have touched multiple districts within Fresno County.
- During her nine years of service with FCOE, Harmony has treated speech and language disabled students in Central Unified, Mendota Unified, Pacific Union Elementary, Riverdale Unified, West Fresno Elementary and Washington Union High School. Currently, Harmony is serving students in American Union Elementary and the Adult Transition Program. Additionally, she has been called upon to cover for various staff needs which have required Harmony to adjust her schedule in order to serve more sites and treat more students. Her response consistently is, "just tell me what you need and I will be there!" Harmony expressed her appreciation to her friends and co-workers. Congratulations, Harmony, we are very proud to honor you as a Fresno County Office of Education Employee of the Month.
- RECOGNITION** Motion by Member Clyde, seconded by Member Tannenbaum, adopting Resolution No. 2008-12, Resolution No. 2008-12, proclaiming May 2008 as Better Speech and Hearing Month, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution No. 2008-13, Recognition of Dr. Don Witzansky Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Eubanks, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-13, honoring Dr. Don Witzansky, Sierra Unified School District Superintendent's 38 years in education, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- RECESS** A recess was called at 1:40 p.m. for a reception to honor Harmony Negrete, Employee of the Month. The meeting was reconvened at 1:56 p.m.
- REPORT** Barbara Miller introduced members of her nursing staff and shared a PowerPoint presentation Health Services entitled "Enhancing Lives" as a tribute to school nurses and the special students population they "Enhancing Lives" serve.

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| Washington Union High School – Health Institute | Marti Hipp, Program Coordinator for Washington Union High School’s Health Institute, shared that the Health Institute Program was formulated in 2004 to meet the needs of students interested in pursuing a career in the health field. Students selected for the institute receive intensive training and complete a rigorous curriculum to prepare for post secondary qualification into a four year university. The district’s 15 graduating students have all been accepted into four-year universities; some with more than one acceptance. Students Isabel Aquino and Jeff Wells were in attendance and shared their appreciation for the opportunity to attend the program. Isabel was accepted to UCLA and Jeff has elected to attend the UC/CSU Medical Program at CSU-Fresno. |
| Court Schools – NASA Project | Dan Loewen and his NASA Project students shared some very exciting projects they have been involved in this year. In November, 2007 a student project was accepted by NASA to fly a student designed project on NASA’s C-9B reduced gravity aircraft in Houston, Texas. A flight team of four JJC instructors left for Houston in early March for training and to conduct research. In February, 2008, Mr. Loewen presented a human vestibular system in microgravity and some of the latest Mars research being done in the Mojave Desert at NASA’s Space Explorers Educators Conference in Houston, Texas. Last March, several teachers from Court and Community Schools went to NASA Ames Research Center on a one day field trip. |
| Scout Island Field Trip | Seven students from the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Campus participated in a field trip to Scout Island in February. This endeavor was a joint effort between the Fresno County Office of Education Court Schools and the Juvenile Probation Department. The field trip provided students with a unique opportunity to study biology, geology and to view nature in a quiet and serene setting. |
| Curriculum & Instruction Williams/Valenzuela Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report | Dr. Catania shared an overview of the Valenzuela Lawsuit Settlement Agreement. As part of the Williams Lawsuit Compliance Settlement Agreement, all districts are mandated to report to their Board of Trustees, on a quarterly basis, summarized data on any complaints received and the nature of the resolution of all complaints. Dr. Catania reported that there were no complaints received from January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2008. |
| Board of Education CCBE Policy Platform | The Board discussed CCBE’s request to discuss the Policy Legislative Platform. President Thomas will compose a letter to Pat Hicks on behalf of the Board in support of adding Federal Education Issues to its legislative platform. |
| ACTION ITEMS Apportionment of Forest Reserve Receipts Approved | Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Tannenbaum, to approve Tulare County Board of Education’s apportionment of Forest Reserve Receipts for 2007-2008, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. |
| Resolution No. 2008-10, Classified School Employees Week Adopted | Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Tannenbaum, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-10, in recognition of Classified School Employees Week, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. |
| 2006-2007 Special Education School Accountability Report Card Approved | Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Clyde, to approve the Special Education School Accountability Report Card for 2006-2007, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. |
| Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators Approved | Motion by Member Clyde, seconded by Member Tannenbaum, to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. |

Resolution No. 2008-11,
Transfer of Ownership –
Portables from FCOE to
Caruthers USD
Adopted

Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Clyde, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-11, transferring ownership of portable classrooms from the Fresno County Office of Education to Caruthers Unified School District, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing on Deferred
Maintenance Five-Year Plan

President Thomas opened a public hearing giving the public an opportunity to comment on the Deferred Maintenance Five-Year Plan. President Thomas read the following statement: “Let the record show that a hearing opportunity was given for the Deferred Maintenance Five-Year Plan.”

Interdistrict Transfer Appeal-
Samuel Powell of Kings
Canyon Unified School
District to Kingsburg Joint
Union High School

The Board discussed the request for an interdistrict transfer from the district of residence. Those present at the hearing included: Kathleen Powell, parent; Mike Robinson, FCOE Interdistrict Liaison; and Mary Ann Carousso, Administrator, Kings Canyon Unified School District.

The Board sought information from the parent and the district.

Member Clyde moved to deny the interdistrict transfer request for Samuel Powell to attend Kingsburg Joint Union High School from his home district of residence, Kings Canyon Unified. The motion was seconded by Member Clyde. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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| Member Clyde | Yes |
| Member Tannenbaum | No |
| Member Cederquist | Yes |
| Member Eubanks | No |
| President Thomas | Yes |

TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES
Travel Reimbursements

Motion by Member Eubanks, seconded by Member Tannenbaum, to approve mileage and conference reimbursement for Member Cederquist in the amount of \$2,071.45, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Meetings to Attend

Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Eubanks, to approve travel and conference requests for Members Cederquist, Eubanks and President Thomas to attend the Annual CSBA Education Conference in December. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Board

- UC Medical Schools
- Members Cederquist and Thomas attended the award recognition for Nikki Ohanisian
- Member Tannenbaum expressed her appreciation to Jan Biggs for his involvement in Tree Fresno and the possibility of a nursery to Scout Island
- Mike Robinson addressed the Board of the potential flood of incoming interdistrict transfer requests and updated the Board of a change in the law in regards to interdistrict transfers and child care
- Member Cederquist reported that he will not be in attendance at the next Board meeting on June 19, 2008

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Powell reported on the following:

- FCOE Image Spot
- Educational/Government TV Channel
- Boot Camp/Teilman School
- Hiring Freeze
- FCOE Logo
- Naming of Yale Facility

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| Public Hearing on Certificated Bargaining Unit's Initial Proposal for the 2008-2009 School Year | President Thomas read the following statement: "Let the record show that the required sunshine period has been met, and a hearing opportunity was given for the Certificated Bargaining Unit's opening position." There were no comments from the public. The hearing was therefore closed. |
| Public Hearing on Fresno County Superintendent of Schools' Initial Proposal to Certificated Bargaining Unit for the 2008-2009 School Year | President Thomas read the following statement: "Let the record show that the required sunshine period has been met, and a hearing opportunity was given for the Board/Superintendent's opening position." There were no comments from the public. The hearing was therefore closed. |
| Public Hearing on Classified Bargaining Unit's Initial Proposal for the 2008-2009 School Year | President Thomas read the following statement: "Let the record show that the required sunshine period has been met, and a hearing opportunity was given for the Classified Bargaining Unit's opening position." There were no comments from the public. The hearing was therefore closed. |
| Public Hearing on Fresno County Superintendent of Schools' Initial Proposal to Classified Bargaining Unit for the 2008-2009 School Year | President Thomas read the following statement: "Let the record show that the required sunshine period has been met, and a hearing opportunity was given for the Board/Superintendent's opening position." There were no comments from the public. The hearing was therefore closed. |
| FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS | Board Member Student Scholarship Fund and Scout Island Property and possible collaboration with Tree Fresno. |
| ADJOURNMENT | There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m. |