



## FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### MINUTES August 15, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER** Vice President Eubanks called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and an inspirational reading by Armen Bacon.
- ATTENDANCE** Members present: Vice President Keith Eubanks; Members Delbert Cederquist, and Barbara Thomas. President Allen Clyde and Member Mike Robinson were absent.
- Participating staff: County Superintendent of Schools Jim Yovino; Deputy Superintendents Dr. Kathryn Catania, Educational Services, and Richard A. Martin, Business Services; Linda Bacon, General Counsel, Legal Services; Armen Bacon, Public Relations/Communications; and Gloria Ferrer, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.
- AGENDA**  
**Approved** Member Cederquist moved to approve the August 15, 2013 agenda; seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried unanimously.
- MINUTES**  
**Approved** Member Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2013 Board meeting, as presented; seconded by Member Cederquist; motion carried unanimously.
- COMMUNITY INPUT** There were no comments from the public.
- Employee of the Month**  
**July 2013** Denise Tavernetti was selected as the July 2013 Employee of the Month. As the SELPA Coordinator, Denise's efforts have been instrumental in coordinating the delivery of exemplary special education programs and services to assure equal access to students with disabilities. Denise works tirelessly to assure special education programs and services are operated in accordance with state and federal law, the SELPA Local Plan, and adopted policies, agreements, and procedures. She also partners with the Community Advisory Committee, which distributes information to parents about available educational programs. She promotes student-centered schools, and facilitates a high rate of community support and involvement.
- To illustrate just one example of what transcends Denise's leadership from good to great: The SELPA team had been feverishly working to obtain new funding for student-centered special education services, and it was discovered that there was a rare opportunity to access a significant amount of funding from a neighboring county agency. As with most opportunities of extreme importance, time was in short supply. The funding deadline was fast approaching, and it was likely that any unused funds would go back to the state. With just a couple of days to make things happen, Mrs. Tavernetti contacted all thirty-plus district superintendents in the Fresno County SELPA. She petitioned their approval to request these funds from the agency. At the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, with only a few districts left to contact, Denise unassumingly approached the remaining superintendents during an evening reception and politely asked for their support. The result of her *conviction* - over one half million dollars was allocated to the Fresno County SELPA.
- Congratulations, Denise, we are proud to honor you as the July 2013 Employee of the Month.
- Employee of the Month**  
**August 2013** Jeannette Castaneda was selected as the August Employee of the Month. Jeannette Castaneda began her employment with FCOE as a Paraprofessional in 2003. At that time, Jeannette did not have an Education Specialist Credential, Master's Degree or an additional authorization in Early Childhood Special Education. In August of 2007, her dream became a reality and today Jeanette is a highly respected teacher of preschool age children with autism. Over the years, Jeanette has created a classroom where her staff, students, and parents are valued. She has built a strong educational team through her timely and effective communication skills, her staff trainings, and her high expectations.

MINUTES CONTINUED

Jeannette values parents as an essential member of the educational team. She makes regular home visits to train parents on strategies that support them and enhance the learning environment. During home visits she helps parents identify and access community resources, and discusses parent issues and concerns related to their child. Jeannette developed a formalized, monthly parent meeting in which parents have the opportunity to learn about a specific topic and talk with each other regarding the issues of raising a child with autism. In addition to being a conscientious, creative and highly effective teacher, in Jeanette's spare time she is a Senior Airman First Class in the Air Force Reserves and the mother of a 4<sup>th</sup> grader.

Congratulations Jeannette, we are proud to honor you as the August 2013 Employee of the Month.

RECESS

A recess was called for a reception to honor the Employees of the Month.

REPORTS

1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2013  
Williams/Valenzuela  
Report

Dr. Kathryn Catania, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services, reported that there were no complaints received from January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013. As part of the Williams/Valenzuela 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 and resolution of all complaints. These complaints may include instructional material insufficiencies, teacher vacancies or misassignments, facility concerns or complaints related to CAHSEE Intensive Instructional Services.

Facilities Report

Jeff Becker updated the Board on current and future building and modernization projects.

ACTION

Resolution No. 2013-15,  
Constitution Day  
**Adopted**

Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Thomas, adopting Resolution No. 2013-15, in recognition of United States Constitution Day, September 17, 1787, as presented; motion carried unanimously.

Big Picture High School  
Center for Training and  
Careers Pilot Program  
**Approved**

Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Thomas, approving a pilot Center for Training and Careers Program class at the Big Picture High School, as presented; motion carried unanimously.

CSBA Call for  
Nominations  
Director-at-Large

There were no nominations for CSBA Director-at-Large for American Indian, Black or County.

TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES  
Travel Requests

Motion by Member Cederquist, second by Vice President Eubanks, approving travel for Member Thomas to attend the Federal Relations Network Conference in Washington, D.C. February 2-4, 2014; motion carried unanimously.

Travel/Mileage  
Reimbursements

There were no mileage reimbursements to approve.

Receipt of Correspondence

- No correspondence received.

Comments by the Board

- Maddy Institute in Sacramento

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Member Cederquist, seconded by Member Thomas, to table the Conference with Legal Counsel (2 cases) until the September meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES CONTINUED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Introduction of Dr. Kathryn Catania
- VHEA Remodel
- CENCAL Mentoring Program
- Superintendent's Advisory Meetings
- Rotary Meeting – FCOE Services
- Fresno Chamber Entrepreneur Program
- Local Control Funding Formula Program

PUBLIC HEARING  
County Superintendent of Schools' Initial Proposal to the Certificated Bargaining Unit for 2013-14

At 3:10 p.m., Superintendent Yovino opened a public hearing giving the public an opportunity to comment on the Superintendent's Initial Proposal to the Certificated Bargaining Unit and the Certificated Bargaining Unit's Initial Proposal to the Superintendent for the 2013-14 School Year.

There being no comments, the hearing was closed at 3:11 p.m.

County Superintendent of Schools' Initial Proposal to the Certificated Bargaining Unit for the 2013-14 School Year

Superintendent Yovino Sunshined the Superintendent's Initial Proposal to the Certificated Bargaining Unit for the 2013-14 School Year.

Recognize Certificated Bargaining Unit Proposal Pursuant To Public Notice Requirement

Superintendent Yovino received the Certificated Bargaining Unit's Proposal for the 2013-14 School Year to the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to the public notice requirement.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

There was a consensus to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m.