

**CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADOPTED MINUTES**

Meeting:	<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Date:	<u>July 12, 2011</u>
Place:	<u>District Administration Office</u>	Time:	<u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>
	<u>4034 Irving Place</u>		<u>6:01 p.m. – Closed Session</u>
	<u>Culver City 90232</u>		<u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u>

Board Members Present

Scott Zeidman, Esq., President
Karlo Silbiger, Vice President
Katherine Paspalis, Esq., Clerk
Patricia Siever, Professor, Member
Steven Gourley, Member

Staff Members Present

Patricia W. Jaffe, Interim Superintendent
Ali Delawalla
Eileen Carroll

Call to Order

Board President Mr. Zeidman called the meeting of the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 7:00 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Barbara Honig and Madeline Ehrlich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Closed Session

Mr. Zeidman reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session regarding issues listed on today's Closed Session agenda and announced that no reportable actions were taken.

8. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the July 12, 2011 agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. Consent Agenda

Mr. Zeidman called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any item. Ms. Siever requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn. Mr. Silbiger requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn. Mr. Gourley requested that item 9.6 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Mr. Silbiger to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.7, 9.8 and 9.9 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.3 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 1

9.4 Classified Personnel Reports

9.5 Enrollment Report

9.7 Office of Child Development 2011/2012 Contracts

9.8 Office of Child Development 2011/2012 Resolution

9.9 CCHS Girls' Basketball Team to Participate in the West Coast Jamboree Tournament, San Francisco, California, December 26-30, 2011

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – May 24, 2011; and Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting – June 14, 2011

Mr. Silbiger requested this item be pulled so that it could be mentioned in the June 14, 2011 Minutes that there was a workshop held earlier in the evening at 5:00 p.m. where he was present. He also corrected the June 14, 2011 Minutes to state that he was present for Closed Session. Ms. Siever added that on the June 14th Minutes she corrected the vote on item 9.4 to 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nay. She would like her statement in item 9.2 clarified. She would like the statement to read “Ms. Siever stated that after looking at all of the consultants listed she would like to know how much is being spent on consultants and also see them by category.”

9.2 Approval is Recommended for the Purchase Orders

Ms. Siever requested that this item be withdrawn so that she could request further clarification from Mr. Delawalla regarding the funds used for special education students going to LACOE. Mr. Delawalla explained it is for services that the District cannot provide to students attending the LACOE program. Ms. Siever also had an inquiry on field trips, and how the money is reflected in the budget when a school sends money back to the District. Mr. Delawalla explained that it appears as an expenditure and revenue. Ms. Siever thanked Mr. Delawalla for his assistance.

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – May 24, 2011; and Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting – June 14, 2011 – (cont.)

Mr. Gourley had a correction on the May 24th Minutes on page 123 having to do with him challenging Mr. Mielke as to Mr. Mielke's statement that no one has tried to negotiate with the union. Mr. Gourley clarified the sequence of the conversation and clarified that Mr. Mielke was not complaining about the Civility Complaint Policy. What Mr. Mielke was complaining about was that he was not given notice, pursuant to Government Code 54957, that he was going to be discussed that evening. As a result he wanted Mr. Zeidman to read the notice. Mr. Gourley suggested that the wording be modified to read: Mr. Mielke spoke unrecognized from the audience claiming a violation of Government Code Section 54957. Mr. Gourley attempted to correct him. Mr. Zeidman read the specifics of Government Code 54957 and the matter concluded. The Board agreed to the modification of the Minutes given by Mr. Gourley.

9.6 Approval is Recommended for the Williams/Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaints, 4th Quarter 2010-2011

It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve the Williams/Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaints, 4th Quarter 2010-2011 as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 2 – Nays by Mr. Gourley and Ms. Paspalis.

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve item 9.1 as amended, and item 9.2 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations - None**11. Public Recognition****11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Jaffe reported that staff that was previously laid off had been brought back primarily due to the six furlough days that were agreed upon. She thanked all staff that agreed to take the furlough days. Mrs. Jaffe welcomed Ms. Carroll to her new position of Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and to her first Board meeting. Mrs. Jaffe provided the Board with an update from the SELPA meeting that she attended, and of possible District IEP plans. One suggestion that was mentioned was perhaps the District operating its own mental health program. The SELPA Superintendents will continue to find ways to reduce costs. Mrs. Jaffe updated the Board on her visit, along with Board member Ms. Paspalis, to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' office. They went to discuss Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' support of the Building Bridges International Charter School here in the District, and wanted to discuss the need for open communication. Mrs. Jaffe also reported that the City was going to apply for a non-infrastructure grant to address some of the traffic issues at the Elenda corridor.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Ms. Carroll stated that she has had a wonderful beginning in the Educational Services Department. She has met with a number of staff members. Ms. Carroll reported on the events taking place for the upcoming Administrative Retreat, and the Professional Development for teachers. She will be meeting with Mrs. Audrey Stephens and developing a literacy skills assessment, and working with the teachers on the assessments.

Mr. Delawalla provided an update on the budget and discussed Assembly Bill 114.

11.3 Members of the Audience

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Madeline Ehrlich asked what was going to happen with the Immersion Program at the middle school and high school levels. Mrs. Jaffe provided a brief update that a teacher was being hired at the middle school level.
- Barbara Honig and Kathleen McCarn informed the Board about the Culver City Sister City Committee upcoming exchange students arriving from Kaizuka, Japan.
- Robert Zirgulis stated that the Board previously signed and passed a Resolution against oil drilling in Baldwin Hills. He spoke about how much money was spent on a lawsuit that was settled regarding the drilling. He stated that he was defamed and talked about in the local papers when all he was trying to do was get some of the royalties from the drilling for the District. Mr. Zirgulis is trying to lobby for a windfall profit tax to help support the schools.

11.4 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Silbiger stated that he will be out of town for the next meeting on July 26th so he wished the Board good luck. He announced that elections are coming in November and informed the audience how they would file to run for the Board if interested. He appreciates that staff is looking into the mileage reimbursement issues. He recommended to have more staff track their mileage if they receive reimbursement. He also spoke about AB746 which goes into affect on January 1, 2012 and has to do with cyber-bullying. It gives school districts the ability to punish any student caught cyber-bullying. Mr. Silbiger suggested to Ms. Carroll and to the District Anti-Bullying Task Force that we might need to look at the Board Policy to see if it will need updating.
- Ms. Siever asked if an agreement was made to resolve the conflict with students wanting to take Youth and Government class at the YMCA, and participate in sports. She would like to see the written agreement. Ms. Siever also spoke about the previously adopted Board Goals and Objectives and stated that there will be a yearly report on what the Board has accomplished out of their goals and objectives. She asked the Mrs. Jaffe to assist with a timeline. Ms. Siever suggested meeting with the grant writers from West Los Angeles College.
- Ms. Paspalis stated that she was enjoying her summer thus far. She reported that she sat in on the interview panel for the Principal position at Farragut Elementary. Ms. Paspalis thought that the meeting with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas was productive and that he and his staff have a better idea about the make-up of the District.
- Mr. Zeidman stated that prior to Mrs. Jaffe and Ms. Paspalis' meeting with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas he had received a phone call from the Supervisor that was very "spirited" in response to a letter that Mr. Zeidman wrote. Mr. Zeidman reported that there were massive crowds at the Culver City Little League games and thanked everyone who attended.

12. Information Items**12.1 Capital Projects Update**

Mr. Delawalla provided the Board with an update on the four renovation projects that they requested. The projects included Robert Frost Auditorium, the athletic complex, the solar panel project, and an elevator upgrade at the high school. He reported that he is planning on bringing the architect's contract to the next meeting. The items to be worked on at Robert Frost include curtains, seats, air conditioning, lighting, and the sound system. Ms. Siever asked what the timeline was for the solar project. Mr. Delawalla responded October 7th was the deadline for the funding from AQMD. Mr. Silbiger stated that assuming the District receives the funding in October from AQMD when would the project be completed. Mr. Delawalla stated that AQMD states the project has to be implemented within 18 months. Further discussion ensued regarding repairs and timeframes.

12.2 Board Statement of the District's Support and Adherence to a Policy of Nondiscrimination

Mr. Silbiger read the annual statement. Ms. Siever asked for a change in the statement.

13. Recess

The Board unanimously decided to bypass recess.

14. Action Items**14.1 Superintendent's Items****14.1a Approval is Recommended for the Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meetings and Schedule of Proposed Meeting Dates as Revised**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the revised Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meetings and Schedule of Proposed Meeting dates as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2 Education Services Items**14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Adult Education Apportionment (ADA) Courses for 2011-2012**

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Adult Education Apportionment (ADA) Courses for 2011-2012 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2b Approval is Recommended for the K-12 Music Curriculum

Dr. Luther Henderson spoke in support of the music curriculum that is presented. He spoke of his teaching experience and the degrees he holds in music. Dr. Henderson stated that music is very important, and as a resident of Culver City he feels that there should be music at every school site and there must be a music room. Dr. Henderson recommended that on page 12 that the practice should be 45-60 minutes per day in order to bring a strong music program. Tania Fleischer stated that she has directed the AVPA string ensemble and she strongly urges closing the current music program until the new curriculum can be coordinated and put into place. Lois Starer who is a violin teacher spoke about her students from Culver City and Santa Monica that she gives private lessons to. She stated that sadly there is a difference in the students from both districts, and that in Santa Monica instrumental music is a requirement in the fourth and fifth grades. Bonnie Wacker commented that she understands the "clamoring" of parents regarding the program. She is not in support of the current curriculum. Mrs. Wacker feels that the District needs to take the time to build a strong curriculum, and stated that she admires the Board's willingness to move forward. Lynn Bassone, retired music teacher, stated that there is a piecemeal approach to the music program. She asked why the District did not have a model music program throughout the grades with such good funding from Sony. Linda Silva, AVPA music teacher, feels that AVPA also needs to have a challenging curriculum. She is in agreement with starting over again with a new curriculum. Marni Parsons spoke in favor of closing the current music program and reopening with a new curriculum. Roberta Sergant urged the Board not to adopt the new curriculum because the teachers have not had a chance to review it and provide their input. She stated that she has found some inconsistencies in the curriculum. Jerry Chabola commented that he previously saw a student at the Hollywood Bowl. He thanked the parents and staff that are so passionate about the arts. Mr. Chabola wanted to remind the Board that the District is focusing on one program, and suggested the summer program possibility by the parents. Mr. Silbiger thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated that the music program is already depleted by the 25% cut last year. Mr. Silbiger looks forward to the time when funding returns. He stated that at the DCAT meeting they discussed how one of the things that distinguished an Arts Program is having a policy in place such as the one presented. Mr. Silbiger feels that the District cannot allow music to be seen as an option. He is in agreement that the program needs to be restructured but it should not take years. He also feels that the program needs teacher training, support, and assessment; and have supplemental help. Mr. Silbiger addressed some of the comments from the audience. Music teacher Paul Witt was also available to respond to questions. Ms. Siever stated that music enriches our life. What she has heard from staff is that some things will change, but she does not think the Board should cut the program. Ms. Siever stated that she will be voting in favor of the curriculum presented, and she thanked Mr. Witt for attending the meeting. Ms. Paspalis stated that she wished Dr. Spano was available and she would like his statement put into the record. She thinks it was important what he had to say. Ms. Paspalis thinks that Dr.

Spano’s worked long and hard on this curriculum and a new curriculum is what is needed. She is in support of approval. Mr. Zeidman stated that his biggest concern is teacher buy-in since Ms. Sergant stated that she did not see the new curriculum. Mr. Silbiger suggested approving the curriculum and bringing it to a DCAT meeting. It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the K-12 Music Curriculum as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Business Items

14.3a Fourth Reading and Approval of Administrative Regulation 3100, Business and Non-Instructional Operation – Budget; Formation of the Community Budget Advisory Committee

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Mr. Silbiger that the Board approve Administrative Regulation 3100, Business and Non-Instructional Operation – Budget; Formation of the Community Budget Advisory Committee as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – Ayes and 1 – Nay from Mr. Gourley.

14.3b Approval is Recommended for the Certification of Signatures

It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Certification of Signatures as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

15. Board Business - None

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Siever, seconded by Mr. Gourley and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Zeidman adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary