

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>November 26, 2013</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>City Hall (Chambers) 9770 Culver Boulevard Culver City 90232</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting 6:01 p.m. – Closed Session 7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>

**Board Members Present**

**Katherine Paspalis, Esq., President**  
**Patricia Siever, Professor, Vice President**  
**Nancy Goldberg, Clerk**  
**Laura Chardiet, Member**  
**Karlo Silbiger, Member**

**Staff Members Present**

**David LaRose, Superintendent**  
**Kati Krumpe**  
**Leslie Lockhart**  
**Mike Reynolds**

**Call to Order**

Board President Ms. Paspalis 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 7:15 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Debbie Hamme led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

Ms. Paspalis reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session regarding issues listed on today's Closed Session agenda and the following action was taken. The Board took action to place custodian on compulsory leave of absence pursuant to Education Code Section 45304(c). The vote was 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

**8. Adoption of Agenda**

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Goldberg that the Board adopt the November 26, 2013 agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**9. Consent Agenda**

Ms. Paspalis 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 Siever requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn.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 Silbiger requested that item 9.6 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Chardiet and seconded by Ms. Goldberg to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, and 9.7 – 9.9 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – November 12, 2013
- 9.3 Purchase Orders and Warrants
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 8
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 8
- 9.7 Common Core Budget Plan
- 9.8 Disposal of Surplus Equipment
- 9.9 Ratify Nutrition Agreement between Culver City Unified School District and Pepperdine University

**9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders and Warrants**

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to discuss Purchase Order 62093 on page three to the Los Angeles County Office of Education and asked why it was twenty thousand dollars more this year than it was last year. Mr. Reynolds stated that the purchase order is for special education targeted services. The amount is based on the amount of students served. Ms. Siever asked Mr. LaRose about the status on trying to reduce some of the costs associated with special education services. Dr. Krumpe added that the contracted services costs are being reviewed at the moment and the Board will be brought additional information from Jo-Anne Cooper. We are moving towards providing some of the contracted services. Ms. Siever asked if there was a reduction percentage decided upon to figure out how much money could be saved. Dr. Krumpe stated not at this time. We do not have percentage that we are looking to save.

**9.6 Approval is Recommended for the Single Plans for Student Achievement for Culver City High School, Culver Park High School, Culver City Middle School, El Marino Elementary School, El Rincon Elementary School, Farragut Elementary School, La Ballona Elementary School, and Linwood Howe Elementary School**

Mr. Silbiger withdrew this item and stated that he spoke to Dr. Krumpke yesterday and he appreciates the information he was given. He understands the way that they are being brought to the Board is changing. He encouraged the staff and Board to have meaningful discussions on the site plans and direction of the schools. He provided examples of things he thinks needed to be looked at. For example in the High School site plan on page 22 it states that the goal is to have a 100% graduation rate. It later states that in 2012 the estimated graduation rate is 90.7%. English learners had a 66% graduation rate which is a pretty substantial difference, and he thinks that needs some attention to figure out what the District needs to do to get that percentage rate to increase and to support the students. He also stated that on page twenty-nine it states that “all students will be college and career ready upon graduation” which he was unclear as to what that meant. The site plan later states that the goal is to 50% UC eligible and currently only 41% were UC ready in 2012. He thinks that we need to look at why, and he is hoping that there will be a larger conversation sometime in the near future.

It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Ms. Chardiet that the Board approve the Single Plans for Student Achievement for Culver City High School, Culver Park High School, Culver City Middle School, El Marino Elementary School, El Rincon Elementary School, Farragut Elementary School, La Ballona Elementary School, and Linwood Howe Elementary School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations – None**

**11. Public Recognition**

**11.1 Superintendent’s Report**

Mr. LaRose stated that he and the Assistant Superintendent’s will not have a formal report this meeting and dedicated their time to acknowledging the outgoing Board members. On behalf of himself and the Assistant Superintendent’s Mr. La Rose thanked Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for their service to District and the community. He asked Mrs. Lockhart, Dr. Krumpke, and Rebecca Williams to present them with their cards, certificates, District t-shirts, and a gift on behalf of the District.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents’ Reports**

There was no report from the Assistant Superintendents.

**11.3 Student Representatives’ Reports**

**Middle School Student Representative**

Natalya Tapia, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, was not present.

**Culver Park Student Representative**

Wendy Gonzalez, Culver Park High School Student Representative, was not present.

**Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member**

Roy Gonzalez, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including providing the Board with an update on the Blood Drive; the Lunch and Learn Programs being very successful and he explained how the program work; an update on renovations for the Peace Garden are continuing by reapportioning the money in the ASB account. The garden should be completed this weekend. He provided an update for the Pennies for Patients fundraiser and stated that it has been successful. ASB is adopting a family of five over the holidays and helping them get items that they have requested such as school supplies, food, and clothing. The Back Packs for Kids program has also been a success. Mr. Gonzalez also provided the Board with an update on the sports teams at the High School and stated that the spring sports teams are starting practice.

**11.4 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Meghan Sahli-Wells expressed her heartfelt thanks to Mr. Silbiger and Ms. Siever for their service as this was the last meeting they would be attending. She further directed comments to Mr. Silbiger stating that there were three words that came to mind when she was reflecting on his term which were diligence, intelligence and integrity. She thanked him for his leadership and said he will be missed.
- Ken Browning stated that by taking little steps you can see a big difference. He thanked the Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for their service and said that having solar panels in the District “really rocks!”
- Disa Lindgren went to school in the District and has been a long-time resident. She appreciates the experience that she has had here in Culver City. Ms. Lindgren stated that she knows how radically things have changed since she was in school, and understands that the school board plays a critical role in running a district. She thanked Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for their service. She stated that she was impressed by Mr. Silbiger’s leadership as she has attended some of his community forums that he has held.
- Margaret Lindgren thanked all of the Board members for their service. She wanted to express what a good listener Mr. Silbiger is and stated that he is a person of vision. He has brought that vision to the Board. She stated he is a collegiate person and believes he will go far in policy-making. Ms. Lindgren felt that since he also is an active teacher it gives him a special perspective as a Board member.
- Robert Zirgulis, who stated he lost as a candidate in the election, wanted to acknowledge the hard work of all of the candidates. He was disappointed that only 15% of the community voted. He wanted to state that he has not given up on refurbishing the Natatorium.
- Carlene Brown stated that she was very appreciative of Ms. Siever’s service to the District even though she does not know her as well as Mr. Silbiger. She spoke about what a great leader Mr. Silbiger has been and his assistance in hiring such a wonderful Superintendent. She was enthusiastic on championing the “whole child” vision set out by Superintendent LaRose.
- Luther Henderson congratulated the new Board members, Susanne Robins, Steven Levin, and Incumbent Katherine Paspalis. He congratulated Ms. Siever on her service to the District and wanted everyone to know that it is not the singling out of one person, but a team. It is the Board as a collective unit that makes decisions and he commended them. He posed the question, “Is the District better off than it was four years ago?” He said, “Yes.” The Culver City schools are better off than they were. The schools and students are stronger academically and he stated that there is great staff. The new Board members are challenged with keeping the District on an upward path. Dr. Henderson stated he is happy that the District hired additional staff for the Music Department. He thanked his wife, Ms. Siever, for her service in the District.
- David Mielke thanked Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for their service and stated that he is glad people are acknowledging their service. He commented that both Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger were very vocal about supporting one of the District’s neediest populations which are the students at Culver Park. He thanked the Board and staff for moving negotiations along and for supporting the labor and management partnership. Mr. Mielke provided an update on the partnership meeting
- Jim Province thanked Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for their service and wished them success in the future. He stated that a lot has gotten accomplished over the past two years. He commended Ms. Siever and spoke about how he appreciates both of them. Their commitment is admirable.
- Rick Tuttle congratulated Ms. Paspalis, Ms. Robins, and Mr. Levin on the election. He stated that we have been fortunate to have Ms. Siever serve in this District and she is woman of great distinction. He spoke about the accomplishment of Ms. Siever and her husband Dr. Luther Henderson.
- Rebecca Rona stated that Mr. Silbiger always amazes her. She thinks everyone knows how talented he is and how he is capable of doing amazing things. She addressed Ms. Siever and said that she has been privileged to work with her on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee. She said that Ms. Siever was very committed to her students, and that Ms. Siever, Mr. Silbiger and Ms. Goldberg have unique perspectives as teachers. Ms. Rona stated that Ms. Siever brings another perspective since she works with college students. Therefore, Ms. Siever knows exactly where she would like our students to be academically. Ms. Rona shared a story about living on Orange County where she felt everyone “looked alike.” She then stated that she loved the diversity in the District.

- Ann Alexander commended Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger for being on the Board because collectively they hired the best Superintendent she thinks the District has ever had. She stated her disappointment in the number of voters at the election. She thinks there was low voter turnout because people are happy with the way the District is going right now. When people are not happy she thinks you tend to get more voters who are trying to make a change.

### **11.5 Members of the Board**

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Goldberg commended Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger by asking the audience to look at the wonderful service they have given the District. She stated she is going to miss them but she is going to work at integrating our new Board members and making them feel welcome.
- Ms. Chardiet stated that she had the opportunity to see the girl's volleyball team play in the playoff game, and she saw AVPA's "12 Angry Jurors." As she was watching the students in both of these activities she notices how engrossed and "all in" they were. She stated this Board has been "all in" and noted that there has been a lot of collaboration.
- Ms. Siever congratulated the new Board members and stated that the District will have a great Board moving forward. She is sure that there will be a bond passed in June. She has been on the Governor's Board, taught over seventeen thousand students, sat on several other Boards, and has had many accomplishments of serving the community in different capacities. When she was asked to run for the Board she was not sure, but decided to do so because she loves education. Ms. Siever stated that this Board has always come together no matter what their differences were. She stated that she has been fortunate and privileged to work with this Board. Ms. Siever thanked Dr. Henderson for his support over the past four years and for his attendance at every Board meeting. She also introduced her daughter Stephanie and her son Josh who were in the audience in support of her final attendance at a meeting.
- Mr. Silbiger gave many thanks to everyone who came and gave such heartfelt comments. He congratulated Ms. Paspalis, Ms. Robins, and Mr. Levin. Mr. Silbiger said he appreciates that Ms. Siever is always trying to make sure that the public has access to information. He wanted to note that when he would reminisce about being a student in the District it was to remind people what experience the students might be having in hopes that it would bring perspective and help the Board to do a better job. He read the many accomplishments of the Board during his service which included the solar project, moving half of the Board meetings to the City Chambers, beginning legitimate steps to moving immersion to the secondary level, healthier cafeteria food, and many other changes. He stated he will continue to be involved in the District and he challenged the new Board to keep bringing people in and being involved. As the District works on integrating Common Core, going through the bond process, working for arts for all, and two-language immersion, it is important to keep the community involved. He noted that this is the first time in twelve years that the Board has been without a person of color. He feels that is important when you have 75% of students that are non-white. It is important to have a Board that reflects the community and asked that the community remembers that at the next elections. Mr. Silbiger thanked his colleagues and previous colleagues, Steve Gourley and Scott Zeidman.
- Ms. Paspalis reported on her attendance at "12 Angry Jurors." She thanked Ms. Chardiet for working on some of the new legislation regarding adult schools and making sure the District is compliant. Ms. Paspalis thanked Ms. Siever and commended her for her generosity in donating her Board member stipend to the Education Foundation during her term. Ms. Paspalis thanked Mr. Silbiger for his service. She spoke about the fiscal condition that the Board has worked through. She spoke about how she looks forward to her continued service and future improvements in the District. Ms. Paspalis stated her appreciation working with the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendents, and prior Board colleagues Steve Gourley and Scott Zeidman.

### **13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

**12. Information Items****12.1 CCUSD “Snapshot”**

Mr. LaRose said in the interest of time this item would be moved to a future meeting.

**12.2 Capital Needs Update and Next Steps**

Mr. Reynolds provided the Board with an update on the capital projects that are being done in the District and what the next steps would be. The capital needs have been and are currently being extensively examined by many different people and from many different perspectives. Mr. Reynolds spoke about the needs assessment being done by Balfour Beatty for all of the school sites. There are three different sub-committees who have met, at the direction of the Board, to investigate possible funding sources for these needs. There has also been a public opinion poll indicating that there was support in the community for the passage of a Prop 39 General Obligation Bond to address these needs. Ms. Chardiet asked if the Board could receive before and after photographs as the work is being done. Mr. Reynolds stated that everyone was so excited to get going on the projects that not many photographs were taken before they got started but wishes they had. Ms. Siever asked if minutes were taken at these sub-committee meetings. Mr. Reynolds stated that there were and he would be working on them over the holiday break. Ms. Siever also agrees with Ms. Chardiet that there should be before and after photos of the projects. Paul Ehrlich stated that he attended all three sub-committee meetings. He would like the school board to meet so we are all on the same page. He suggested an open forum or a workshop. Mr. Ehrlich spoke about the possible complications of a bond and feels the Board should discuss the possible restrictions. He also suggested that there should be a bond that is just for technology, or his previously suggested idea of the Board discussing an endowment. Ms. Chardiet stated her concerns about the timeline. Further discussion ensued regarding the timeline and RFP. Madeline Ehrlich stated that it disturbs her to have another survey with the costs that are entailed. She does not think we need to have another Measure EE. She was on the campaign for Measure EE and knows how the people felt about it and they were told it would not be renewed. Janet Chabola thinks the Board needs to make a decision on whether or not the District is going to pursue Measure EE. Paul Ehrlich thinks the Board should get a three year bond and forget the parcel tax extension.

**12.3 Report on Extra Duty Assignments**

Mr. Reynolds presented the information to the Board. Ms. Siever thanked Mr. Reynolds for bringing the information as she has been requesting it for some time.

**14. Action Items****14.1 Superintendent’s Items - None****14.2 Education Services Items - None****14.3 Business Services Items****14.3a Approval is Recommended to Authorize the Superintendent to Sign Agreement between Culver City Unified School District and CWE**

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Chardiet that the Board Authorize the Superintendent to Sign the Agreement between Culver City Unified School District and CWE as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4 Personnel Items - None****15. Board Business - None**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Ms. Chardiet and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Ms. Paspalis adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m. in honor of the Ms. Siever and Mr. Silbiger's service to the District.

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

**On:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary