

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>February 11, 2014</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>Linwood Howe Elementary (Cafetorium) 4100 Irving Place 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**

**Laura Chardiet, President  
Nancy Goldberg, Vice President  
Steven M. Levin, Ph.D., Clerk  
Susanne Robins, Member  
Katherine Paspalis, Esq., Member**

**Staff Members Present**

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

**Call to Order**

Board President Ms. Chardiet 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 7:01 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Students from Linwood Howe Elementary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

Ms. Chardiet 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 Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Dr. Levin that the Board adopt the February 11, 2014 agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**9. Consent Agenda**

Ms. Chardiet called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any item. There were no items withdrawn from the Consent Items. It was moved by Ms. Goldberg and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 as amended and 9.2 through 9.7 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

- 9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – January 28, 2014
- 9.2 Purchase Orders and Warrants
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts
- 9.4 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 12
- 9.5 Classified Personnel Reports No. 12
- 9.6 Enrollment Report
- 9.7 Culver City Middle School GATE Overnight Field Trip to Idyllwild, California

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**

**10.1 CCUSD – Power of US Recognition**

Mrs. Lockhart announced that the Food Services Department team would be the honorees during the presentation. She spoke about the hard work and dedication that the team puts in, and the hundreds of meals being served daily throughout the District everyday. Mrs. Lockhart announced each member of the team that was present and presented them with a certificate and Power of US t-shirt.

**10.2 Spotlight on Education - Linwood E. Howe Elementary**

Ms. Kim Indelicato, Principal at Linwood Howe, opened by letting the Board know about the school's Mission Statement and speaking about the school's diversity. She informed the Board about the schools Points of Pride such as being a recipient of the Title 1 Achievement Award, being on the 2013 Honor Roll, California Business for Education Excellence, and Math Olympiads, Grades 4-5. Ms. Indelicato also spoke about the school's enrichment classes, classes/programs that promote character education, and programs promoting health and environmental awareness such as the Hiking Vikings-Walk to School Fridays. Linwood Howe was also the Green 5 Pilot School. Ms. Indelicato spoke about Linwood Howe having great parent volunteers and staff. It is truly a community. She introduced Ms. Atoosa Abascal who is the Mentor for the Cotsen Math/CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction). Ms. Abascal spoke a little about how the students are doing in the math classes and how they are enjoying it. She introduced teacher Ms. Schneider who had the Board and staff members solve a multiplication problem that was written on a white board on stage. Ms. Schneider and three of her students, William McManus, Amira Warren, and Lyra Gross, presented how each of these students solved the same multiplication problem after having the guided instruction. Teachers Amy Hodge, Vivian Chinelli, Courtney Farrar gave testimonials about the guided instruction and how much they are enjoying learning and teaching in the new manner. Ms. Indelicato continued her presentation speaking about how the Professional Learning Community (PLC) looked at the question of "How will we know when they know it?" She presented the API scores and the 2013 school year growth, and the CST scores. At the end of her presentation she showed quotes from parents who spoke to how much they enjoyed their children attending Linwood Howe. Ms. Indelicato responded to questions from the Board. Further discussion ensued about how the guided instruction is helping the students in other content areas other than math. Board members thanked Ms. Indelicato, staff, and students for their presentations.

**11. Public Recognition****11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mr. LaRose thanked Ms. Indelicato and her staff for hosting the meeting and for a great presentation. He thanked Todd Johnson, Co-Chair of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, for the "Flip the Switch" event which was the ribbon cutting for the solar power project; and the Board for attending. He said it was a very positive event. Mr. LaRose thanked Jerry Chabola and Leslie Gardner for their implementation and commitment to the Back Pack Program. The group working on this program has been very passionate about sustaining the program and working on reaching out to the community for donations. They have secured many donations and food drives. Mr. LaRose stated that he is grateful for the advocates in the community. He reported that he spent two days to the newly named BNICE Committee which was formerly the Anti-Bullying Committee. They are bringing back their partner from Olweus and there will be a retraining. On February 26, 2014 there will be a District-wide emergency preparedness drill and the District will be partnering with the City. There will also be another District/Union partnership meeting coming up soon that he is looking forward to.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Dr. Krumpe gave accolades to the solar SunPower event and gave a special thanks to the Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teachers. They did a month long instructional unit on alternate energy. They utilized volunteer 6<sup>th</sup> grade docents that took Farragut students on a walking field trip around the structures. The students did a magnificent job at the event. She reported that there will be a survey that is going out so the District can be in compliance with the Local Control Funding Formula. The District has to do an accountability plan and the District is interested to see community input as to how well the District is doing. The survey will be in Culver Currents and on the District's website. On February 25<sup>th</sup> there is a special conversation for the English learning community, and she encouraged anyone who is interested in how we can improve our English learner programs to participate.

Mrs. Lockhart reported that on the 31<sup>st</sup> she attended the High School's Talent Show and it was really well organized and great to see the students showcase their talents. She stated that she was happy to see the agreement with ACE on the agenda this evening and how great the partnership has been with the unions. Mrs. Lockhart thanked Debbie Hamme, Steve Acosta, Marion Serra, Robert Gray, and Penny Upton for their time and commitment. She thanked everyone for giving the Food Services team such a warm welcome. She spoke about how much the team does and rarely get recognized for all that they do in the District.

Mr. Reynolds thanked everyone that attended the solar project ribbon cutting event. It was a terrific day. He stated that we have a balanced budget, and the 2.5% increase in pay along with the raise in health and benefits moves us closer to the median for Los Angeles County schools. The Business Department has some Action Items regarding the Lease Lease-Back and that Balfour Beatty was able to complete the field project for less money. Mr. Reynolds spoke about other items that will be coming up on the agenda. He stated that the elevator project might come in at a higher amount than anticipated. He will be getting a report to the Board shortly.

### **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 Mendoza, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including students making Valentine's Day cards for Veterans and it was very successful. The Culver Park students then went to the Veterans. Miss Mendoza stated that the new semester has started for Student Council and there are more people involved with fresh ideas.

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

Allison Morales, who was substituting for Student Board Member Roy Gonzalez, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including AVPA beginning their musical "Kiss Me Kate" on March 5<sup>th</sup> and the Blood Drive beginning on February 20<sup>th</sup> in the High School Gym. She stated that the Business Faire for non-profits companies in the community had a great turn-out. That talent show raised \$3,500 for the school and the students made a donation to KIND (Kids in Need of Desks). On February 28<sup>th</sup> there will be an Electives Faire and ASB application are out for students who are interested.

### **11.4 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Scott Thornton, an adaptive P.E. teacher addressed some of the needs of the classrooms. He stated that the fans that came from the District during the summer are too loud. He suggested a dimmer switch so that you can slow down the speeds of the fan. He also stated that there needs to be air conditioning in the Nursing Station. The concrete sealer in the walkways get very slippery when wet. He suggested a power sprayer for a deeper cleaning. He also stated that parking is very difficult. He would also like to get hot water in the schools for sanitary reasons. Ms. Paspalis stated that she hopes the air conditioning in the Nursing Station does get addressed.
- Eric Taylor spoke on behalf of the parents and students in the Transitional Kindergarten Program at El Marino. He spoke about their experience at the school and feels it will be hard on the students if they have to leave the school for kindergarten. He asked the Board to allow those students already attending El Marino to stay and not have to go through the lottery process. He said that it feels very unfair.
- Todd Johnson stated that he wanted to speak on the leadership quality of Linwood Howe for their environmental efforts. He wanted to express his appreciation to the Principal and staff for their help and dedication. He said with the help of Linwood Howe, it has helped the rest of the District in piloting the environmental efforts. Mr. Johnson also thanked the Board for the event last week.

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

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Robins stated that she was very impressed with the students and their presentation. She thanked the sustainability committee for the event last week and for all of their efforts. Ms. Robins also thanked the Food Services Department for all that they do for our students in the District. She is very excited to see what the students are learning with the Cotsen Program and the CGI learning.
- Dr. Levin echoed everyone's sentiments on the presentations, and the solar energy event. He wanted to emphasize that not only is solar a benefit with energy, but there is also the learning element for the students. He stated that it was fun talking to the El Marino 3<sup>rd</sup> graders about science. Dr. Levin

reported that there will be an astronomy organization coming to speak to the students at Farragut and El Rincon.

- Ms. Paspalis reported on her attendance at the Spelling Bee and stated that Cooper came in 2<sup>nd</sup> and is going on to the next level. It is nice seeing the final piece of efforts from three and a half years ago come together using the money left over from Measure T to get the solar project done and the fields. She appreciates the efforts of Shea Cunningham, getting students from Farragut to participate in the solar event. Ms. Paspalis attended a book signing event for Molly Antopol. Ms. Antopol graduated from the District and is a Stanford Professor, and now a published author.
- Ms. Goldberg recommended reading Molly Antopol book stating that it was incredible. Ms. Goldberg thinks that Ms. Antopol promises to be a real star in the literary world. Ms. Goldberg is also very proud of Casey Chabola who was one of her students and is now a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher in the District. Ms. Goldberg congratulated members of the ESC for a great event. She stated that she had a great time hearing the 5<sup>th</sup> graders explaining solar to her.
- Ms. Chardiet thanked Linwood Howe for hosting the Board meeting. She thanked staff for incorporating learning in the solar event. She will attend a workshop for Board Presidents that was offered by CSBA and really felt that most people do not realize how big the Common Core change is and the local control funding. She stated that we as a District are doing so much and we should be proud of our staff that are doing the real work. Ms. Chardiet reported that during an interview on cable television Councilman Clark referred to the District as the “Jewel of Culver City.”

## **12. Information Items**

### **12.1 Governor’s Proposed Budget for 2014-15**

Sean Kearney gave a brief presentation providing an overview of the Governor’s Proposed Budget for 2014-2015. His presentation included information on the State revenues, California’s long-term liabilities, and a K-12 Proposal overview.

### **12.2 Bond Discussion**

Mr. Reynolds introduced representatives from Keygent Advisors that were in attendance to respond to any questions from the Board. Chris Erhart from Keygent informed the Board of some responses that she compiled to questions that she received. She shared information with the Board about preparations and activities regarding a potential June 2014 Prop 39 Bond Measure which included information about the proposed bond amount, and information about the proposed tax rate per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. Board members thanked Ms. Erhart and complimented her on her presentation which was very thorough. Dr. Levin confirmed that what was being shown were just different scenarios. Ms. Erhart confirmed. He wanted to make sure that we were going to promise a tax rate and try to stay at that rate. Ms. Erhart confirmed. Ms. Robins stated that property value has gone up sixteen percent last year. Ms. Goldberg asked what the interest rates would be. Ms. Erhart said if it was done right now it would be 4.7%, but that we cannot know the exact amount right now for a future date. Ms. Paspalis spoke about the difference between an estimate and a guess. Janine Wisnosky Stehlin who is the representative for UPCC stated that the group supports a bond and they are ready to “ignite.” Robert Zirgulis stated that he supports the bond and hopes to get the pool fixed. He encourages the Board to reach out and get others involved and to support the bond such as Karlo Silbiger who he feels has a good community following.

Ms. Chardiet recessed the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 8:55 p.m. to convene the meeting of Culver City School Facilities Financing Authority. Mr. Reynolds briefly provided information on this annual item.

### **1.0 Approval of the Report of the Treasurer - Controller**

It was moved by Ms. Robins and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board of Directors of Culver City School Facilities Financing Authority approve the Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2013 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays. Ms. Chardiet resumed the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 8:59 p.m.

**13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

**14. Action Items****14.1 Superintendent's Items - None****14.2 Education Services Items****14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Contract between Culver City Unified School District and Parker & Covert LLP, Attorneys, for Educational Services Related Issues**

It was moved by Dr. Levin and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Contract between Culver City Unified School District and Parker & Covert LLP, Attorneys, for Educational Services Related Issues as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.2b Approval is Recommended for the Memorandum of Understanding between Culver City Unified School District and Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services, to Provide Mental Health Services on Site at Culver City High School**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Goldberg that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Culver City Unified School District and Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services, to Provide Mental Health Services on Site at Culver City High School as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.3 Business Services Items****14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Amendment to Agreement with Balfour Beatty for District's Site Maintenance Project**

It was moved by Ms. Robins and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Amendment to Agreement with Balfour Beatty for District's Site Maintenance Project as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.3b Approval is Recommended for a Change Order for Balfour Beatty for Culver City High School Athletic Field Improvements**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Dr. Levin that the Board approve a Change Order for Balfour Beatty for Culver City High School Athletic Field Improvements as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.3c Approval is Recommended for Resolution #8/2013-2014 – Regarding Culver City Unified School District's Intention to Issue Tax-Exempt General Obligation Bonds**

It was moved by Ms. Goldberg and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve Resolution #8/2013-2014 – Regarding Culver City Unified School District's Intention to Issue Tax-Exempt General Obligation Bonds as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.3d Approval is Recommended for the Soils Testing Proposal from Harrington Geotechnical Engineering**

It was moved by Ms. Robins and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Soils Testing Proposal from Harrington Geotechnical Engineering as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.3e Approval is Recommended for Pro-Rated District Contribution to the Cost of Vision and Life Insurance Benefits for Part-Time Employees**

It was moved by Ms. Goldberg and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve Pro-Rated District Contributions to the Cost of Vision and Life Insurance Benefits for Part-Time Employees as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**14.4 Personnel Items**

**14.4a Approval is Recommended for the Memorandum of Agreement Between Culver City Unified School District and the Association of Classified Employees (ACE), Regarding the 2013/2014 School Year**

It was moved by Dr. Levin and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement Between Culver City Unified School District and the Association of Classified Employees (ACE), Regarding the 2013/2014 School Year as presented. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5 – Ayes from Ms. Chardiet, Ms. Goldberg, Dr. Levin, Ms. Paspalis, and Ms. Robins; and 0 – Nays.

**15. Board Business - None**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Ms. Paspalis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Goldberg requested to adjourn the meeting in memory of Peter Loomer and she provided a brief bio on Mr. Loomer. Board President Ms. Chardiet adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m. in memory of Peter Loomer.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary