

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>December 13, 2011</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>Linwood E. Howe Elementary (Cafetorium) 4100 Irving Place Culver City 90232</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>5:30 p.m. – Public Meeting 5:31 p.m. – Closed Session 6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>

**Board Members Present**  
Karlo Silbiger, Vice President  
Katherine Paspalis, Esq., Clerk  
Patricia Siever, Professor, Member

**Staff Members Present**  
Patricia W. Jaffe, Superintendent  
Ali Delawalla  
Eileen Carroll

**Call to Order**

Board Vice President Mr. Silbiger called the meeting of the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education to order at 5:30 p.m. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:31 p.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 6:06 p.m. with three Board members in attendance. Mr. Zeidman and Mr. Gourley were not in attendance. Students Cole and Isabella Chardiet led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

Mr. Silbiger 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**

Mr. Silbiger amended the agenda by pulling item 14.4b. He suggested moving items 15.1 and 15.2 to immediately follow the Consent Items. Mr. Silbiger also suggested moving item 14.3a to follow item 12.1. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board adopt the December 13, 2011 agenda as amended. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

**9. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Silbiger called the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the audience or the Board wished to withdraw any item. Ms. Siever requested that items 9.2, 9.4, 9.5, and 9.7 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1, 9.3, 9.6, 9.8 – 9.10 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – November 22, 2011
- 9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations
- 9.6 Acceptance of Enrollment Report
- 9.8 Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly Overnight Field Trip for CCHS Students in Lake Arrowhead, California, April 27-29, 2012
- 9.9 Local Educational Agency Plan Addendum under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
- 9.10 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 E. Howe Elementary School

**9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders**

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to state her concerns about the amount of money being spent in items on pages three and five. Mr. Delawalla stated that the items she was inquiring about were open Purchase Orders that covered the entire year. Mrs. Jaffe confirmed that the SELPA districts are already looking into how costs can be saved.

**9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 9**

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to address her concerns about the costs of extra assignments. She would like to know how much the District spends in extra assignments per year. She stated that possibly the District would need to hire someone for the year to assist in covering some of these assignments.

**9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 9**

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to ask about the Instructional Assistants positions and why they are needed at the District Office. Mrs. Jaffe explained that substitutes are assigned to the District Office and then they can go any school site. Ms. Siever asked about item 1e and if the student helpers were working outside of the District. Mrs. Jaffe stated that these are special education students that are in the Workability Program. Ms. Siever inquired how money from the resignations goes back into the General Fund. Mr. Delawalla will get the information to her at a later date.

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve items 9.2, 9.4, 9.5, and 9.7 as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

**15. Board Business****15.1 Oath of Office for Incoming Board Members**

Mr. Silbiger turned the meeting over to Mrs. Jaffe to conduct the Oaths of Office. Mrs. Jaffe introduced the two new Board members, Nancy Goldberg and Laura Chardiet, and led them through the Oath of Office. The new Board members then joined the rest of the Board at the dioc.

**15.2 Annual Governing Board Organization Meeting – (Pursuant to Ed. Code 35143)**

Mrs. Jaffe opened the nominations for President. Ms. Siever nominated Mr. Silbiger for President. The nomination was seconded by Ms. Goldberg. With no further nominations the Board voted unanimously for Mr. Silbiger to serve as President. Mr. Silbiger thanked the Board for electing him as President. Mr. Silbiger called for nominations for Vice President. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Chardiet to nominate Ms. Paspalis. With no further nominations the Board voted unanimously for Ms. Paspalis to serve as Vice President. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Goldberg to nominate Ms. Siever as Clerk. There being no additional nominations the Board unanimously voted for Ms. Siever to serve as Clerk. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Chardiet to nominate Ms. Siever as the Voting Representative to the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association (LACSTA) and Representative to Elect Members to the County Committee on School District Organization. There being no additional nominations the Board voted unanimously to elect Ms. Siever as the Voting Representative to LACSTA and Representative to Elect Members to the County Committee on School District Organization. Mr. Silbiger appointed Ms. Paspalis as Parliamentarian.

Volunteering to serve as the Representative to the Board of Education/City Council Liaison Committee were Ms. Paspalis, Ms. Siever, and Ms. Goldberg as the alternate. Volunteering to serve as the Representative to the Youth Health Center Committee was Ms. Goldberg. Volunteering to serve as the Representative to the District Community Arts Committee was Ms. Chardiet. Volunteering to serve as Representative to the Fineshriber Foundation was Mr. Silbiger with Ms. Goldberg serving as an alternate. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis for the Board to approve all appointments. The motion was unanimously approved.

**10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations****10.1 American Citizenship Awards**

Mrs. Jaffe and the Assistant Superintendents read the names and accomplishments of each school's recipients of the American Citizenship Award for the month of December. The recipients were Rebecca Netzel from El Marino School; Malik Wilson from El Rincon Elementary; Sumaiya Manjra from La Ballona School; Isabelle Kessner from Linwood E. Howe School; Salman Abbas from Farragut School; Dylan Blaisdell from Culver City Middle School; Brian Jimenez from Culver Park High School; and Sierra Marshall from Culver City High School. Board members presented each recipient with a pin and certificate; and thanked the students and their families for attending the meeting.

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

Mrs. Jaffe congratulated Ms. Chardiet and Ms. Goldberg on their newly elected positions as Board members. Mrs. Jaffe thanked the current Board for all of their hard work over the past two years. She then extended congratulations to the Centaur Football Team and spoke about their great accomplishments over the season. The team had a great send off from the middle school and high school students and staff as they boarded the bus to head to the CIF semi-finals. Mrs. Jaffe stated that she was so proud of the students, teachers, support staff and the community on how they came together in support of the team.

**11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Ms. Carroll congratulated and welcomed Ms. Goldberg and Ms. Chardiet. She reported that the first DLAC meeting was this week and stated some of the topics that were covered. Ms. Carroll also reported that today there were groups of students at the high school and middle school that were trained in an anti-bullying program regarding cyber bullying. The student will now be training other students at their schools.

Mr. Delawalla welcomed the new Board members. He stated that he had planned on introducing Sean Kearney as the new Director of Fiscal Services, but unfortunately Mr. Kearney is out ill. Mr. Delawalla went on to provide a brief biography on Mr. Kearney.

**11.3 Student Representatives' Reports****Middle School Student Representative**

Kaelyn Gsellman, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver City Middle School, including the Winter Wonderland Dance update and the Winter O'Grams; Santa Claus coming to the middle school; and the Cheer Squad's win in competition.

**Culver Park Student Representative**

Jessica Delgado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including the students presenting their designs for their school sweatshirts; the service projects taking place at the school such as Toys for Tots and Helping Hands.

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

Eliud Evans, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including the Snow Ball Dance; the upcoming ASB fundraisers; an upcoming drive-in movie presentation; and AVPA's assembly which he thought was great. Mr. Evans also provided a sports update, and congratulated the football team on an excellent season.

**11.4 Members of the Audience**

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Neil Rubenstein stated that he brought a Culver City News where Ms. Chardiet stated that she has found three people to write grants for the District. He asked if a Board member is not sworn in yet can they take action and act on behalf of the Board. Ms. Paspalis explained that Ms. Chardiet was acting in her capacity as a member of PTA Council.
- Marci Shulman welcomed the new Board members. She thanked Mr. Zeidman and Mr. Gourley for all of their hard work. Ms. Shulman spoke about the Education Foundation's All for One campaign which raised \$80,000. Leslie Adler, the Education Foundation's Executive Director, spoke about the money from the All for One campaign and what it will go towards. She stated that their website was being updated and the continued plans to grow the campaign.
- David Mielke welcomed Ms. Goldberg and Ms. Chardiet. He congratulated Mr. Silbiger on his new appointment as President, and to the football team for a great season. Mr. Mielke provided a union update and stated that CCFT's proposal went to the District last week. He stated that teachers have expressed their concern about class size. CCFT will need a proposal from the Board soon. The union hopes they will be at the table on January 11<sup>th</sup>, and they hope that there will be a more collaborative tone to the negotiations.

- Todd Johnson extended congratulations to the Board and provided an update on the Environmental Sustainability Committee's discussions. He stated that Linwood Howe Elementary is the least cost effective school in the District.
- Pamela Greenstein welcomed Ms. Goldberg and Ms. Chardiet to the Board.

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

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Goldberg asked for an update on the solar project. Mr. Delawalla stated that he has submitted for CSI application and at this time staff is looking at different projects. Ms. Goldberg also wanted to confirm that the Environmental Sustainability Committee would be involved.
- Ms. Chardiet stated she was happy that the Green 5 project was moving forward. She thanked her family, friends, and the community for attending the meeting and giving her their support.
- Ms. Siever welcomed the new Board members. She stated that Mr. Zeidman previously stated that he would donate his salary to the All For One campaign. Instead of donating her annual stipend for serving as a Board member, she stated that she wrote a check to the Education Foundation for \$2,600. Ms. Siever asked Mrs. Jaffe to report as to the progress on the Board's goals and objectives. She thanked everyone for coming out and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- Ms. Paspalis welcomed the new Board members. She heard the AVPA singers at the tree lighting and they did a great job. Ms. Paspalis reported that she went to the semi-final football game and it was fabulous. She attended the PTA Holiday Luncheon which was a success, and also read stories to students at La Ballona Elementary. Ms. Paspalis stated that she has discussed the communication/transparency issue with Mrs. Jaffe that she keeps hearing about. They have decided that after the Board meetings there will be updates on Culver Currents. She congratulated Coach Wright and the individual players on the football team. Ms. Paspalis spoke of her disappointment with an article in Culver City News where they did not state anything about what the District is doing for the environment and "going green."
- Mr. Silbiger thanked all the community members who attended the meeting. Mr. Silbiger also thanked members of the Education Advisory Committee which included John Barton, Nancy Goldberg, Jim Province, Gary Silbiger and others who helped him. He spoke about his intentions as the new Board President. In January the Board will set new goals and objectives. He spoke about a few of the ideas he would like to work towards which included creating a new budget process and looking at the way schools are functioning.

Mayor O'Leary came to the podium and congratulated Mr. Silbiger on his appointment as president. He also congratulated Ms. Goldberg and Ms. Chardiet, and looks forward to working with the District.

## **12. Information Items**

### **12.1 Presentation of the First Interim Report for 2011-12**

Mr. Delawalla presented the First Interim Report to the Board. Dr. Luther Henderson commented on his observation that there was not a lot of "wobble room" in the unrestricted funds for salaries. He also took notice that the retiree lifetime benefits are being paid out of the general fund. He stated that retirees in June will be paid out of the general fund. Mr. Delawalla stated that there funds in 2003, and there was an opportunity for the Board to decide. He stated that we currently on a "pay as you go." Peggy Upton stated that new information had just come in from the State and that revenues came in at \$2.2 billion under. She stated that trigger one would be totally implemented and trigger 2 would be partially implemented. Ms. Upton also stated that there would be a Home-to-School funding cut. Amanda Copeland announced that there was a new community group named Culver City Citizens for an Ethical School Board. They had extended invitations to the Board to attend their meeting and only two Board members responded. Ms. Copeland asked questions of Mr. Delawalla about the special education funding and expenditures. She also asked where the funds come from to pay the District's special education attorneys. Mr. Delawalla responded to additional questions from the Board. Mr. Silbiger thanked Mr. Delawalla for his presentation, and commented that with all of the cuts coming from the State it is amazing that the District will not have to do mid-year cuts.

**14. Action Items****14.3 Business Items****14.3a Approval is Recommended for the Certification of the First Interim Report for 2011-12**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Certification of the First Interim Report for 2011-12 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**13. Recess**

The Board agreed to bypass a recess.

**14. Action Items – (cont.)****14.1 Superintendent's Items - None****14.2 Education Services Items****14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #04-11-12**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #04-11-12 as amended in Closed Session. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; and 2 – Abstentions.

**14.3 Business Services Items – (cont)****14.3b Approval is Recommended for the Certification of Signatures**

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

**14.3c Approval is Recommended for the Extension of Joint Use Agreement between the City of Culver City and Culver City Unified School District**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Siever that the Board approve the Extension of Joint Use Agreement between the City of Culver City and Culver City Unified School District as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; and 2 – Abstentions.

**14.4 Personnel Items****14.4a Approval is Recommended for the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar**

David Mielke stated that the calendar is a mandatory subject of bargaining. He explained the process of making the decisions regarding the school year calendar dates, and stated the process has been a collaborative one. He stated everyone was surprised after the last meeting when it was derailed. Ms. Siever stated that she would be voting yes. Mr. Silbiger stated that at the last meeting it was the right decision at the wrong time. He will support the motion and he would like to move towards a start time that makes more sense. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approve the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes; 0 – Nays; and 2 – Abstentions.

**14.4b Approval is Recommended for Resolution #7-2011/2012, Catastrophic Leave for Certificated Employee (High School Teacher)**

This item was removed from the agenda.

Ms. Paspalis stated she was greatly concerned about two of the Board members meeting with someone that the District is in litigation with. She would like to direct Mrs. Jaffe to direct those members to bring a full report of what happened in that meeting so that it may be discussed at the next Closed Session. She suggested that Mr. Silbiger and Ms. Goldberg recuse themselves from voting on special education litigation issues because they spoke to members of the public on this topic.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Paspalis, seconded by Ms. Siever and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Silbiger adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m. in memory of Bernice Chardiet.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary