

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>January 24, 2012</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>City Hall</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>5:45 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>
	<b><u>Mike Balkman Chambers</u></b>		<b><u>5:46 p.m. – Closed Session</u></b>
	<b><u>9770 Culver Boulevard</u></b>		<b><u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>
	<b><u>Culver City 90232</u></b>		

**Board Members Present**

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

**Staff Members Present**

**Patricia W. Jaffe, Superintendent**  
**Ali Delawalla**  
**Eileen Carroll**

**Call to Order**

Board President Mr. Silbiger called the meeting of the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education to order at 5:45 p.m. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:46 p.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 7:05 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Mr. Jerry Chabola 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.

**7. Public Hearing**

**7.1 2010-2011 California High School Exit Examination Apportionment Information Report 60 Day General Waiver Request**

Mr. Silbiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m. There being no comments from audience members Mr. Silbiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.

**7.2 2010-11 California English Language Development Test Apportionment Information Report 60 Day General Waiver Request**

Mr. Silbiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m. There being no comments from audience members Mr. Silbiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.

**7.3 Culver City Federation of Teachers (CCFT) Initial Collective Bargaining Proposal to the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) for the 2011-2012 School Year**

Mr. Silbiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m. Amy Hodge, Special Education teacher spoke about her duties and feels that it is imperative to have preparation time. She also stated her concerns about growing class sizes. George Laase stated that any call for salary increases is premature. He stated that the average teacher salary was \$62,041 and is currently \$65,000 due to step and column increases. David Mielke provided a brief union updated and extended congratulations to the new Board members. He provided an overview of the CCFT Proposal. Mr. Mielke stated that the main concern for the teachers is class size. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:20 p.m.

**7.4 Association of Classified Employees (ACE) Initial Collective Bargaining Proposal to the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) for the 2011/2012 School Year**

Mr. Silbiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m. There being no comments from audience members Mr. Silbiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

**8. Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Silbiger suggested moving item 12.1 up on the agenda to follow item 10.1, then continue with item 10.2, and followed by 12.2 and 12.3. Board members agreed. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to adopt the January 24, 2012 agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

**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. Amanda Copeland requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn. David Mielke requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn. Ms. Siever requested that item 9.5 be withdrawn. It was moved by Ms. Chardiet and seconded by Ms. Goldberg to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.3, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, and 9.11 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.6 CCHS Lacrosse Team Trip to Northern California, March 22-24, 2012

9.7 Williams/Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints

9.8 2010-11 California High School Exit Examination Apportionment Information Report 60 Day General Waiver Request

9.9 2010-11 California English Language Development Test Apportionment Information Report 60 Day General Waiver Request

9.11 Student Teacher Agreement Between the Culver City Unified School District and University of Southern California

**9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – December 13, 2011**

Amanda Copeland requested this item be withdrawn to request that additional comments made by her be added to item 12.1. She also asked questions of Mr. Delawalla about the special education funding and expenditures. Ms. Copeland also asked where the funds come from to pay the District's special education attorneys. She asked to include the following comments to item 14.4b, the last paragraph on page 52: Ms. Paspalis 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. Ms. Siever requested that this item be withdrawn to clarify a statement on page 51 item number 11.5. In her comments where it states that "Instead of donating her salary..." she would like it clarified that it was not referencing her salary from West Los Angeles. She was referencing her stipend that she receives as a Board member. She also asked to clarify that she did not ask Mrs. Jaffe for a "write-up." She asked her for a "report" on the status of how the Board is progressing on their goals and objectives. Ms. Paspalis confirmed that there is no correction needed on item 14.4b. It is correct as it stands because the item was removed from the agenda. Mr. Silbiger asked for a correction to item 15.2 on page 49. Mr. Silbiger is the representative to the Fineshriber Foundation and not Ms. Paspalis. Mr. Silbiger requested that the Minutes be brought back to the next meeting for approval since there were several corrections. Mrs. Jaffe agreed.

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

David Mielke inquired about Purchase Order 58168. He wanted to know what fund was being used, and what we are getting from Loyola Marymount for that amount. Mr. Delawalla stated that it is part of a FLAP Grant. Mr. Mielke also had a comment regarding Purchase Order 58169. He was told that we cannot hire in-house language and speech specialists so we pay to contract out to private vendors. In speaking to the speech and language employees here in the District they think that it's got to be more cost effective to hire employees than to contract out. He stated that if we do not have competitive salaries than we will not get many applicants for those positions. Amanda Copeland commented that there is only about \$250 for Fagen, Friedman, and Fulfroost. She asked what happened to the bills for Attorney Jonathan Read to the District. She named some of the services that he has done for her daughter and felt that the bills should have been higher. Mr. Delawalla stated that the bills shown are all that have been received thus far. Susan Levy commented on consultants for speech therapy. She stated that she cannot get speech therapy for her son and he is now a senior in high school. She wondered if since it is not required if that is why they cannot get services. Ms. Siever noticed on page 2 the amount is high for "non-public school." She asked if the amount on page 2 was a cumulative amount. Mr. Delawalla stated that it is a projected amount based on the IEP. She asked what the average was annually on "non-public education." Mr. Delawalla stated it was about \$4.2 million. On page 11, Ms. Siever asked if the charges were for consultants for Special

Education Consultants. She would like to know if there is a code for consultants. Ms. Delawalla stated that they are trying to keep the code for consultants at 5850. She asked again how much does the District spend annually on consultants. Mr. Delawalla stated that the amount was provided in September when he presented the Unaudited Actuals and he will provide the information again at the end of the fiscal year. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve purchase orders from December 3, 2011 through January 13, 2012 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 10**

Mr. Mielke commented on items K and L. He stated that the unions have said that the gap between teachers and administration needs to be narrowed. Mr. Mielke asked the Board to not accept the resignation of Jerry Chabola. Scott Zeidman commented on Jerry Chabola who is resigning. Mr. Zeidman spoke about Mr. Chabola's dedication to the District and his many contributions. Losing Mr. Chabola will be a great loss to the District and Mr. Zeidman urged the Board to vote no on his resignation. Ms. Paspalis agreed with Mr. Ziedman and all Board members agreed that Mr. Chabola's dedication and hard work for the District was appreciated and would be missed. Ms. Siever stated that she spoke to Mrs. Lockhart who helped her understand the difference between additional assignments and extra assignments. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 10 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 10**

Ms. Siever's questions were answered during the discussion in 9.4. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Chardiet that the Classified Personnel Reports No. 10 be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **9.10 Acceptance of Compensation Report of the Members of the Board of Education**

Mr. Laase thanked the Board for bringing the report in a timely fashion. He asked if the public would be seeing the final compensation for the prior Board. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Chardiet that the Board approve the Acceptance of the Compensation Report of the Members of the Board of Education as presented. 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 January. The recipients were Emily Sugiyama from El Marino School; Hannah Tanchauco from El Rincon Elementary; Kaira Hernandez from La Ballona School; Cydnee Wells from Linwood E. Howe School; Hannah Gomez from Farragut School; Delon Barnes from Culver City Middle School; Janyra McNeary from Culver Park High School; and Layal Bishara from Culver City High School. Board members presented each recipient with a pin and a certificate; and thanked the students and their families for attending the meeting.

### **12. Information Items**

#### **12.1 2010-2011 Independent Audit Report**

Mr. Delawalla introduced Michael Ash from Christy White, A Professional Accountancy Corporation who presented the 2010-2011 Independent Audit Report to the Board, and informed the Board when the audits take place during the year. Amanda Copeland suggested having copies for the audience available.

#### **10.2 Spotlight on Education - La Ballona Elementary School and Culver Park High School/Independent Study**

Christine Collins, Principal at La Ballona Elementary, reported on furthering the academic achievement agenda at La Ballona. She also spoke about what is happening at the school to improve test scores. Ms. Siever congratulated Ms. Collins on all of the awards that the school has received under her leadership. Ms. Siever also asked if the Successmaker Program was at all of the schools. Ms. Collins and Ms. Carroll confirmed that all elementary schools have the program and so does Culver City Middle School. Ms. Chardiet congratulated Ms. Collins and the staff at La Ballona. Ms. Carroll also congratulated Ms. Collins on the schools' achievements.

Ms. Carroll introduced Marianne Turner, Principal at Culver Park High School. Ms. Turner informed the Board about the current programs at Culver Park which included the HeArt Project and two new programs. One of the new programs is The K9 Connection which brings together rescue dogs and the students to promote responsibility with the students. The other program is the Youth Mentoring Connection. Ms. Turner was accompanied by student Michael Burke. Mr. Burke then presented information on the R.O.P. Program which he is a part of. He shared his experience and accolades that he has received in the program. Robert Zirculis commented that Mr. Burke is a great student. Amanda Copeland stated that the K9 Connection was an amazing program to help teach responsibility. Ms. Goldberg stated that she received an invitation to an R.O.P. event and asked if Mr. Burke would be in attendance. He confirmed he would be. Ms. Siever commented that this was the second time in the past month that there has been a Culver Park student in the spotlight. Another Culver Park student won the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay competition. Board members thanked the presenters.

Mr. Silbiger asked Board members if they would mind doing items 12.2 and 12.3 and then taking recess. All Board members were in agreement.

## **12. Information Items (cont.)**

### **12.2 CCUSD Litigation Against Students in the District**

Amanda Copeland gave a Power Point presentation in representation of the Culver City Community for an Ethical School Board. She spoke about the District's litigation with its special education students and provided suggestions for a cost-benefit formula to be implemented in the Board's formal protocol for approving litigation against students and to assist in decreasing the waste of funds on attorneys. Robert Zirculis stated that he thinks money should go the students and not lawyers. He has seen how special education helps students and he feels that the District should put money towards the students. Gary Abrams expressed his disappointment with the vision of the District. Janet Chabola asked Ms. Copeland why she feels the District is denying her child an education. Ms. Copeland stated that her issues with the District began in 2005 and has been ongoing. Further discussion ensued.

### **12.3 Special Education Update**

Jo-Anne Cooper presented information on the Special Education Department and how the IEP process works. She also explained how the ADR (Alternate Dispute Resolution) process works and the services that are offered in the District. Ms. Cooper acknowledged that ADR is mandatory by law and stated that her office conducts resolution sessions with all special education students who disagree with their IEP offers. Susan Levy spoke about her son's experience in the District and explained that the services in the high school are not working. Ms. Copeland commented on Ms. Cooper's presentation and stated that there is no ADR, that legally required resolution sessions are refused by Ms. Cooper on every case with her child and that Ms. Cooper was lying. Ms. Copeland proceeded to provide additional information on her daughter's experience in the District.

## **13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

## **11. Public Recognition**

### **11.3 Student Representatives' Reports**

#### **Middle School Student Representative**

Kaelyn Gsellman, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, was unable to stay to give her report due to the length of the meeting.

#### **Culver Park Student Representative**

Jessica Delgado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, was not present.

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

Eliud Evans, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including finals taking place this week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Cocoa and Cram was held last Wednesday which is day

supported by LinkCrew to help students study for finals. He also reported on the many ASB fundraisers taking place in February which include Hot Dog on a Stick on Feb. 8th; Shakey's on Feb. 9th; and on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> they will be serving hot cocoa in the morning and doing a Kiss the Snake Fundraiser in the afternoon. Mr. Evans announced they are holding a blood drive through the Red Cross on Feb. 10th, and having a yard sale in the front of the high school on March 10<sup>th</sup>. He gave a brief sports update. Mr. Eliud stated that he and other students that are friends of Sirak are concerned about how much school he has missed due to administration being unable to come to a decision regarding his punishment. They do not feel that one mistake should not be a deciding factor on the way his future unfolds.

### **11.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Jaffe commended Ms. Collins, Ms. Turner, and Ms. Cooper on their presentation. She thanked Ms. Siever for her participation in the Martin Luther King, Jr. event and provided the names of the students who won the essay competition. Mrs. Jaffe reported on her attendance at the budget workshops and the Facilitation Workshop for Chaotic Times. She stated that the Friends of the Library event was fantastic. Mrs. Jaffe announced that she has started "Meeting in a Minute" which gives a brief summary on the website of actions taken at the Board meetings. She then gave a breakdown of each department showing all of the cuts that have been made over the past three years in the District Office.

### **11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports**

Ms. Carroll reported on the latest Anti-Bullying Task Force meeting and stated that a grant was found in the amount of \$15,000 that the District is going to apply for. The funds would be to implement the Olweus Program. Ms. Carroll also provided an update on professional development workshops in the District.

Mr. Delawalla stated that on January 5<sup>th</sup> the Governor released his budget proposal. Mr. Delawalla provided a brief summary of the proposal and how it would affect education.

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

Members of the audience spoke about:

- Aster Dejene stated that she has a son at the high school who is not perfect, but his recent school record shows he has made big progress. She asked the Board not to throw her son out of school.
- David Mielke gave a brief union update and said that he had a pre-bargaining meeting with the teachers. He said that the reserve for economic uncertainties used to be three percent. He does not know how he missed it, but the last Board raised it to five percent. He stated that it is important that the Board ask the Business Office to give updates as soon as possible. Mr. Mielke also spoke about the unions trying to establish more collaborative relationships with the District.
- Robert Zirgulis suggested renting out the District Office parking lot during the weekends for extra income to the District. He also stated that he is a substitute teacher and thinks that he was being punished by the old Board for being outspoken.
- Rebecca Williams read the comments of Nori Nagumo where she was asking for status on making El Marino's kindergarten a full-day program instead of half-day, and if so what would be the requirements to accommodate the students.

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

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Goldberg reported that she spent a lot of time visiting the schools sites and finding out about their programs. She stated that she was in "awe" of her fellow Board member Patricia Siever at the Martin Luther King, Jr. event. She was impressed by the speakers and the whole event. Ms. Goldberg also attended the Glee event at the middle school and was very impressed by the parent participation. She suggested that if anyone would like to contact her that they send her an e-mail with any questions that they may have so that she can follow-up with them.
- Ms. Chardiet reported that she was visiting the District Office and school sites on an "education tour." She stated that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration event was very inspirational. Ms. Chardiet also

reported on the Grant Writing Workshop that the PTA organized and took place at La Ballona Elementary. She thanked everyone for their help in organizing the event and stated there was good attendance.

- Ms. Siever commended the District staff and parents that took part in the MLK Celebration. The students were fantastic and she was very proud of them. Ms. Siever stated that the District will miss Jerry Chabola.
- Ms. Paspalis reported on her attendance at the Grant Writing Workshop and thanked everyone that helped organize the workshop. She stated there were thirty people present. Ms. Paspalis wanted to address Mr. Silbiger and Ms. Goldberg. Ms. Paspalis wanted to clarify that she has no problem with them meeting with members of the public. She was having an issue with them meeting with someone that the District is in litigation with. She would still like to know what was discussed at the meeting.
- Mr. Silbiger stated that someone brought up to him the topic of start times at the schools. He asked to bring the topic back to a future Board meeting. He stated that the City Council has made it clear that they do not want to spend money on the arts. We are keeping the arts alive in our District and he encourages the city to do the same. Mr. Silbiger stated that it is not a Brown Act violation to meet with someone who is in litigation with the District.

#### **12.4 First Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation/Board Policy 5116.1, Students – Intradistrict Open Enrollment**

The Board decided that the policy did not need any revisions and asked for it to come back to the next meeting for approval.

#### **12.5 Official Election Results**

Mrs. Jaffe presented the Board with the Official Election Results for their information, and for the public to see.

### **14. Action Items**

#### **14.1 Superintendent's Items**

##### **14.1a Fourth Reading and Approval of Board Bylaw 9323, Meeting Conduct**

Mr. Silbiger suggested moving this item to a future meeting. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to continue this item to a future meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **14.2 Education Services Items**

##### **14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #05-11-12**

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board approve the Stipulated Expulsion of Pupil Services Case #05-11-12 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

##### **114.2b Second Reading and Approval of Administrative Regulation 6154, Instruction – Homework/Makeup Work**

Alan Elmont stated that it should be required that the teachers at the middle school and high school post homework assignments online. Sarah Dry asked the Board to change the policy regarding the minutes spent per night on homework at the elementary level. She thinks that too much time is being spent on homework at this grade level. Casey Chabola commented on the reading from an assigned list statement on page B. He asked if this would also be applicable during summer. Mr. Chabola also feels that there should be more math requirements in the assignments. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to postpone this item until the next meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Silbiger allowed Gary Abrams to make his comments since he was not called during Public Recognition. Mr. Abrams spoke on behalf of a student named Sirak. Mr. Abrams asked what the District's policy was on expulsions, and at what point does the Board hear about these cases.

**14.3 Business Services Items**

**14.3a Approval is Recommended for an Increase in Mileage Reimbursement Amount for School Business Travel**

Ms. Siever asked Mr. Delawalla what the increase would amount to approximately for the year. Ms. Goldberg asked if other districts use the IRS requirements. Mr. Delawalla stated that we are trying to be in compliance. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Chardiet that the Board approve an Increase in Mileage Reimbursement Amount for School Business as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.3b Approval is Recommended for the Authorization to Transfer Funds from the General Fund into the Deferred Maintenance, Adult School and Redevelopment Funds**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Goldberg that the Board approve the Authorization to Transfer Funds from the General Fund into the Deferred Maintenance, Adult School and Redevelopment Funds as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4 Personnel Items – None**

**15. Board Business**

Mr. Silbiger recommended hearing the audience members on these matters, but postponing the discussion until the next meeting. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Chardiet to postpone items 15.1 and 15.2 until the next meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

**15.1 Recommendations for the Board Regarding Capital Improvement Projects**

Janet Chabola stated that it is bad business to have community members writing policies. She provided examples of changes in verbage that could be made. Todd Johnson thanked Mrs. Jaffe for her leadership. Elaine Behnken, speaking on behalf of the ACE Community, extended congratulations to Ms. Chardiet and Ms. Goldberg and stated that it was exciting to be working hand-in-hand with the District. Ms. Behnken also announced that the Glee Project was a great success

**15.2 Board Goals and Objectives Update**

This item is postponed until the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Ms. Siever and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Silbiger adjourned the meeting at 10:35 p.m. in memory of Patricia Logsdan.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary