

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

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| Meeting: | <u>Regular Meeting</u> | Date: | <u>February 28, 2012</u> |
| Place: | <u>District Administration Office</u> | Time: | <u>5:30 p.m. – Public Meeting</u> |
| | <u>4034 Irving Place</u> | | <u>5:31 p.m. – Closed Session</u> |
| | <u>Culver City 90232</u> | | <u>7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u> |

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 5:30 p.m. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:31 p.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 7:10 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Ali Delawalla 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 the following reportable actions were taken. The Board took action to release thirteen (13) temporary and one (1) substitute certificated employee effective as of the end of the 2011/2012 school year. The roll call vote was 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays. The Board voted to release ten (10) temporary adult school teachers effective as of the end of the 2011/2012 school year. The roll call vote was 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

7. Public Hearing

7.1 Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) Re-Opener Collective Bargaining Proposal to the Association of Classified Employees (ACE) for the 2011/2012 School Year

Mr. Silbiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m. Janet Chabola asked what happened to the discussion regarding the calendar. She thinks that the discussion regarding the calendar should be reopened. With no further comments from the audience Mr. Silbiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m.

8. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Silbiger suggested moving item 14.1a to follow item 11.5, and move item 15.2 to follow 11.5. Ms. Paspalis made a motion to move item 14.1a and 14.2c to follow 10.2. The motion was seconded by Ms. Siever. The motion was unanimously approved to adopt the February 28, 2012 agenda as amended.

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. Mr. Silbiger requested that item 9.1 be withdrawn. Ms. Siever requested that item 9.2 be withdrawn, and she would like to comment on items 9.4 and 9.5. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.3 and 9.6 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.3 Acceptance of Gifts – Donations

9.6 Culver City High School Students to Attend an Overnight Field Trip to Sacramento, California, March 18-20, 2012

9.1 Approval is Recommended for the Minutes of Regular Meeting – January 24, 2012 and February 14, 2012

Mr. Silbiger requested that this item be withdrawn to add “what she believed to be” under Madeline Ehrlich’s comments on page 63 of the February 14, 2012 minutes. It was moved by Ms. Goldberg and seconded by Ms. Chardiet to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting – January 24, 2012 as presented and the Minutes of Regular

Meeting – February 14, 2012 as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

9.2 Approval is Recommended for Purchase Orders and Warrants

Ms. Siever requested this item be withdrawn to ask about the amount that went to LACOE from the special education expenditures. Mr. Delawalla explained that the amount was for the 2010-2011 school year. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Purchase Orders and Warrants be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Silbiger clarified the addendums on item 9.4 and 9.5 for the audience.

9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 12 and

9.5 Approval is Recommended for the Classified Personnel Reports No. 12

Ms. Siever stated that she would like to know how much goes back into the General Fund if someone resigns, and that she has previously asked for this information. Her comment was in relation to items 9.4 and 9.5. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 12 and the Classified Personnel Reports No. 12 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 February. The recipients were Anthony Yang from El Marino Language School; Maika McNairy El Rincon Elementary; Iselle Alvarado from La Ballona School; Benjamin Orellana from Linwood E. Howe School; Molly Jo Charney from Farragut School; Lauryn McDaniel from Culver City Middle School; Edgar Munoz from Culver Park High School; and Casey Hunter 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.

10.2 Spotlight on Education - El Marino Language School and Farragut Elementary

Ms. Carroll introduced Tracy Pumilia, Principal at El Marino Language School. Ms. Pumilia gave a brief overview on the history of the school. She spoke about the application process for the California Distinguished School honor. Ms. Pumilia spoke about the two signature practices of the school and the results of those practices in terms of the rise of test scores. Ms. Siever stated that she thought the presentation was excellent. Ms. Siever asked if there were any African-American students at the school since that group was not shown in the presentation. Ms. Pumilia stated there were probably about forty African American students. Ms. Siever stated that she felt that population still needed to be shown if there is a low number that attend the school, and that all students matter. Other Board members congratulated Ms. Pumilia on the achievements at her school, and stated they liked her presentation.

Lynn Eborá, Principal at Farragut Elementary, stated that the Board was invited to another Distinguished School Luncheon. She went over the API scores of the school and spoke about the growth in scores. Ms. Eborá highlighted the signature practices which were 1) professional learning communities and 2) intervention strategies. She also spoke about the enrichment opportunities. Ms. Eborá then responded to questions from the Board.

14. Action Items

14.1 Superintendent's Items

14.1a Fifth Reading and Approval of Board Bylaw 9323, Meeting Conduct

Attorney Warren Kinsler from Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo addressed the Board to respond to any questions they may have. Janet Chabola stated that it was frustrating to have information like this and not have it available for the public to comment. Gary Silbiger spoke about the public being able to participate in going over the policy. He feels the attorney is making policy instead of giving legal advice and spoke about a few items that he felt would greatly reduce public participation. Dr. Luther Henderson felt that the solution was to amend item II

in the Bylaw. Ms. Siever had questions about the Quorum and Abstention section of the Bylaw and disagreed that the only way you can abstain from a vote is if you have a conflict of interest. Further discussion ensued. It was agreed that due to the large number of audience members waiting to speak on another agenda item and the fact that additional matters needed to be discussed on the Board Bylaw, it would be brought back to a future meeting.

14.2 Education Services Items

14.2c Approval is Recommended for Full-Day Kindergarten at El Marino Language School Beginning in the 2012-2013 School Year

David Mielke suggested continuing this item. He did not see how the Board could vote to move forward without having a location for Culver Park. Roberta Sargent stated that teachers at El Marino would like a decision made because of the planning that is involved. They would like to know sooner rather than later. Mr. Silbiger stated he would need additional information on the plan for Culver Park. Ms. Paspalis stated that she visited the bungalows that have been proposed as the new site for Culver Park and they have a lot of potential. She stated that there is plenty of opportunity to make it a great space and the matter was discussed last year. Ms. Goldberg stated that the space is not up to the same level as their current site. She stated that to bring students over and put them in the bungalows is “punitive” and she will be voting no. She also asked why El Marino kindergarten cannot be placed at another site. Ms. Chardiet stated that we could make a great space and it has great potential. Jeannie Manriquez informed Ms. Goldberg that the Board passed a Resolution to support the Immersion Program. In the Resolution it speaks to expanding the program and the Board needs to let it flourish. Ms. Pumilia wanted to state that she does appreciate the efforts to expand their program. She would like to speak to the enrollment issue. There are 762 students and growing, but it does not mean that we need to expand the number of classes. It is actually a matter of giving each classroom its own space. Ms. Paspalis stated that she appreciates Ms. Pumilia’s comments, and that she also spoke to Ms. Turner and she was fine with the move. Further discussion ensued regarding the needs of the schools to accommodate the number of students. James Alamillo stated he is more for the parent’s rights to know what they are “getting into” when they attend El Marino. He is more concerned about the environmental issue with possibly expanding and where the school is located near the freeway. Kelly Wile wanted to speak to the expansion. Her issue is about having to go three different times to pick up her kids if you have more than one child in the half-day program. She thinks it is an urgent need to have a full-day kindergarten. Jeannine Wisnosky Stahlin wanted to address Ms. Goldberg’s statement about moving the program. She has heard that teachers agree that it is very important to have the kindergarten with the rest of the school. The teachers depend on each other day to day, and it is more convenient to have the kindergarten with the rest of the schools for not only the students but the teachers also. Heather Litman stated that she is shocked by Ms. Goldberg’s comment. She thinks to take a kindergarten out of El Marino is removing an entire class from participating at the school. She is also “put off” by the feeling of hostility towards El Marino. It’s a shame to say that we are going to keep El Marino contained. Jamie Wallace stated her son went through El Marino and on his first day of class he did not know any of the target language. The school totally immerses the students and they get used to it. There are campus-wide activities. If you separate the kindergarten they miss their entire introduction to the program. Their entire day is in the target language at El Marino. Jef Bontrager wanted to clarify that we are not talking about expanding the program. We are talking about the students currently attending and they do not have the full-day kindergarten that the other schools have and they are learning in a target language. They have students currently being taught in their bungalows everyday. She wanted to point out that there are 132 kindergarten students that are not being given the same opportunity as other kindergarteners in the District. Ms. Bontrager also spoke about having more than one child in the program. Ariadna Martinez stated that one of the most amazing things about El Marino is that the students are all together and the environment. Her daughter started in the Spanish Immersion and was catching on so much to the Japanese Immersion, that now she is in the Japanese Immersion Program. Sara Kocher spoke about the tremendous synergy with the Spanish and Japanese programs. She spoke about the cross-over activities that take place at the school. El Marino is a whole community, not two separate communities. Tom Crunk asked how is the District in the position to talk about capital improvements when there already is not enough room for the students at the schools.

Ms. Siever agrees that the kindergarten students should be full time. She is concerned about what will happen with the Culver Park students. She needs to hear the plans on how they are going to be accommodated and what improvements will be made. Ms. Siever would like to bring it back as an Action Item when she receives

additional information. Mrs. Jaffe suggested that Ms. Siever make an appointment with Mr. Korgan and they can go over what has been already been discussed regarding the location. Mrs. Jaffe explained why El Marino should be changed to full-time. Mr. Silbiger stated that having full day kindergarten at El Marino makes sense. Culver Park is in a beautiful location and students are doing well. He stated that part of what they need is a space that matches their potential. He is not convinced that the students would thrive in that space. Ms. Goldberg wanted to clarify what she said. She was suggesting that another school site or kindergarten class was formed. She wants to find a way to put these issues to rest. She thinks that there might be health issues moving students to the bungalows. Mrs. Jaffe explained that with El Marino only having half-day kindergarten, the District is losing money. She stated that the El Marino kindergarten needs to have the same opportunities as the other schools. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Goldberg to continue item 14.2c until the next meeting. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – Ayes and 2 – Nays by Ms. Paspalis and Ms. Chardiet.

11. Public Recognition

11.3 Student Representatives' Reports

Middle School Student Representative

Kaelyn Gsellman , Culver City Middle School Student Representative, was not present.

Culver Park Student Representative

Jessica Delgado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including a production of Animal Planet’s “Who Let the Dogs Out” that was filmed at the school. K9 Connections students also appeared in the Santa Monica and Culver City newspapers for student teams and pets looking for homes make the perfect comrades. She also expressed her opinion on moving the students from the Culver Park site. She was not in support of the move.

Culver City High School Student Representative/Student Board Member

Eliud Evans, Student Board Member, reported on the ASB applications being out for distribution; the upcoming fundraisers such as the carwash on March 4th at the YMCA, the yard sale on March 10th and Pennies for Patients. Mr. Evans also provided a sports update on the teams at the high school.

15.2 El Marino Adjuncts

Board members decided to adjust the speaker time to two minutes. Audience members stated the following:

- Jamie Wallace stated that Measure EE was overwhelmingly approved to protect and enhance quality education at all of the school. The action by ACE is a roadblock to parent fundraising. She asked where will it end if the union is forcing the aides to become unionized. She listed all of the programs at each site that this decision could affect.
- Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin came with a box of 969 signatures of people who are asking to please keep the Adjunct Program the way it is. The signatures consisted of many people in the community and not just parents at the school. She read the petition to the Board.
- Dan O’Brien stated that one of the things he likes about coming to the meetings is seeing our high achieving students receiving awards. He stated that the kids are the first priority. When parent raise money to help our teachers, it in turns helps our kids. The actions of ACE will at best reduce the number of positions that are helping our kids. The Board should at least have an opinion on the matter.
- Steve Levin stated the Board needs to get involved. He spoke with other parents and came up with language to put into a Board Policy which included that successful programs at one school should be a model for other schools. He read additional suggestions for a Board Policy.
- Scott Kecken stated that the title is wrong on the agenda and should be called a District Issue instead of El Marino Adjuncts. It affects all of the schools. The Board and the Booster Club just agreed to approve a contribution to pay for two adjuncts. He asked the Board to pass a policy. Without the financial support of parents many programs and services would fail.
- Heather Moses gave a little history on the Booster Club at La Ballona and the efforts at the school to hire adjuncts/instructional aides that were parent funded.

- Debbie Jones stated that she understands that it is a very difficult circumstance. She stated that the adjuncts have every right to unionize if they feel they are being treated unfairly. This was not started by the adjuncts. She urged the Board to not cave under the pressure from the “unbiased legal threat” of the union.
- Susanne Robins stated that what ACE is doing is wrong. The Board needs to make sure that they protect the parent’s ability to support our schools. She is deeply disturbed that the union wants to control her philanthropy.
- Sean Veder stated that one of the things that we teach in this district is anti-bullying. The Board needs to fight for philanthropy.
- Valentina Garza stated that she feels she is being asked to write ACE a check. She is not anti-union. ACE is not taking the kids into consideration. The Board was elected to serve the students not ACE.
- Tom Crunk stated the safeguards he would like to see in a policy. He stated that it not just El Marino and that the Board needs a policy that is in support of all the schools equally.
- Ariadna Martinez spoke about her child’s success at Farragut and how student success takes a village.
- Laura Chardiet read suggestions that she proposes for the Board Policy. She asked for support from her fellow Board members to bring back the revised policy for action at the next meeting.
- Jonathan Moses stated that he joins with others in asking the Board to support revising or making a new Board policy.
- Satoshi Yanai stated that the question is if these positions are going to continue or if they are going to die out. He’s heard people talk with envy about this school and the programs.
- Rosibel Ortiz spoke about how her family ended up going to El Marino. It is not fair that the parents work so hard fundraising and then people are trying to take the program away.
- Andrea Schainen stated that she has had an aide in her class for 16 years. She works at LAUSD so she knows the benefit of having them. She stated there is no reason to not allow the parent to fund the aides.
- Oscar Rodriguez commented that he was brought up in the LAUSD schools. The parent involvement is what helps this district thrive. He also stated that the Board needs to stand up and fight for our kids and stop dealing with the special interests group.
- Anne Burke stated that children of Culver City need the Board’s help. We are counting on the Board to protect the programs in the District. She moved to Culver City because of the family-style community and schools. The Board needs to flatten the bureaucracy.
- Adam Lilling spoke about what he does to help contribute to the school, and is in favor of keeping the adjuncts. He wants what is best for Culver City and he would rather put the money he would spend on private school and it put towards fighting any lawsuit.
- Robert Cox spoke about promoting a unified policy among the schools of the District regarding adjuncts/aides to the teachers. He congratulated El Marino and Farragut on their Distinguished School honors. He looks forward to working as an ally with the unions to benefit all of the schools.
- Toni Lowite spoke about the history of the District. She stated everyone working together as volunteers started many of the programs such as the lunch programs and afterschool programs.
- Archie Mendoza asked why this topic was an issue. He stated we have so many wonderful parents here willing to give what they can. He thanked Ms. Chardiet for being pro-active.
- Tori Kitagawa she stated that the adjuncts are so happy to be there. The students are delighted to be part of the program.
- Anne Burke stated that full-day kindergarten is equity. It’s not fair that some are getting full day and some are getting half-day.
- Paul Walsleben thanked Ms. Chardiet for suggesting the language for a policy. He stated a few concerns that the Booster Club at Linwood Howe would like to address which included a formalized classification for the aides, standardized agreements and to have all agreements on paper, and to continue with the program they have at Linwood Howe.
- David Mielke stated he has been disturbed by the tone in the community that sounds very anti-union. He thinks it’s a situation where the Board needs clarification from their legal council so that there can be some consistency.

- Allison Herbst asked the Board to protect the volunteer programs in the District.
- Jef Bontrager stated that we need to remember the first priority is the students. She urged the Board to set policy and procedure.
- Wendy Hamill thanked the Board for listening and urged the Board to protect programs that are working.
- James Alamillo explained how the Adjuncts Program works at Linwood Howe. He felt that any process that moves forward needs to include a parent component. Parents from all schools or at least representatives should be at the negotiating table with the District and the union.
- Yoko Decken spoke in support of the parents and thinks there needs to be a Board policy.
- Gina Marie W. who is the ALLEM President, stated that she was at the meeting to represent the parents. She has met with parents from around the District and they are hoping that the Board can come up with a policy. All the parents are passionate about their schools and look to the Board for guidance. She stated that to unionize the adjuncts would kill the program.
- Diana Aceves who is the Adjunct Coordinator stated that the adjuncts have informed her that they do not want to be unionized.
- Sara Kocher stated that she has letters from students to give to the Board. The adjuncts are made up of many people. She asked the Board to come up with a policy supporting the program.
- Sandra Haro, a teacher at La Ballona for the Dual-Immersion Program, stated that she would like to see equality in the District.
- Marci Baun stated that she strongly believes in our schools. She was strongly against ACE stating that the parents cannot volunteer.
- Roberta Sergant stated that she has not lost faith in our Superintendent or our Board. She does not think it is in anyone's best interest to go to PERB.
- Michael King asked ACE to be "hands off" on this particular issue.
- Bryau Tjomsland commented that it does not sound like ACE has a strong position, and that the Board can say no to negotiations.
- Doug Heller commented that the question today should focus on how to help the kids. The trust is falling from the District and the Board. That is what concerns him
- Scott McVarish stated that what Mr. Mielke was saying something important and that he is also behind the unions.

Mrs. Lockhart, Director of Human Resources, provided an update on any discussions with ACE.

11.5 Members of the Board

Board Members spoke about:

- Ms. Chardiet stated that she is also a parent in the District, and she is heavily involved with the P.T.A. Ms. Chardiet read her proposed verbage for a new Board policy regarding the parent volunteers.
- Ms. Siever stated that the Board had an agreement in Closed Session regarding this matter and it was violated. She feels that she is in a position now that she is not happy about.
- Ms. Paspalis stated that she does not think that there was any breach of Closed Session because there were no agreements made.
- Mr. Silbiger stated that he had the pleasure of being a student a El Marino. He does have many fond memories of the adjunks and thinks that a new Board Policy is the appropriate thing to do. In that was he agrees with Ms. Siever, and he thinks that it will be a process.

11.1 Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Jaffe stated that she appreciates all of the parents that spoke tonight. She thanked Mr. Delawalla for all of his hard work and for really keeping the District fiscally afloat.

11.2 Assistant Superintendents' Reports

Mr. Delawalla reported that he filed the District's application for the athletic field with the State. He stated the plans should be approved by the end of August. Mr. Delawalla expressed to the Board and the community that he

has thoroughly enjoyed working in the District. He also thanked Mrs. Jaffe and the staff for all of their hard work and for being wonderful co-workers. He especially thanked Mary Soto for her assistance and all that she does.

Ms. Paspalis read a newspaper article about a school District that was not doing well financially. She commended Mr. Delawalla for his time, hours, efforts put in for the District. Ms. Siever stated that she was going miss asking him questions about special education and the purchase orders. She stated that Mr. Delawalla was a wonderful human being and so amiable. Ms. Chardiet stated that he will be missed.

11.4 Members of the Audience

There were no comments from audience members.

12. Information Items

12.1 First Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation and Revised Board Policy 5131.7, Students – Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

Board members reviewed the Administrative Regulation and Board Policy. The information will be brought back for approval with any Board revisions.

12.2 First Reading of Revised Administrative Regulation and New Board Policy 5141.32, Students Immunizations

Board members reviewed the Administrative Regulation and Board Policy. The information will be brought back for approval with any Board revisions.

13. Recess

The Board recessed at 10:50 p.m. and reconvened at 11:05 p.m.

14. Action Items – (cont.)

14.2 Education Services Items

14.2a Approval is Recommended for the Reinstatement of Pupil Services Case #03-10-11

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Goldberg that the Board approve the Reinstatement of Pupil Services Case #03-10-11 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2b Second Reading and Approval of Revised Administrative Regulation 5111.1, Students – District Residency

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve the Revised Administrative Regulation 5111.1, Students – District Residency as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.2d Approval is Recommended for Transitional Kindergarten to Begin in the 2012-2013 School Year

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to approve Transitional Kindergarten to Begin in the 2012-2013 School Year as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

14.3 Business Services Items - None

14.4 Personnel Items

14.4a Approval is Recommended for the Adoption of the Culver City Unified School District Re-Opener Collective Bargaining Proposal to the Association of Classified Employees (ACE) for the 2011-2012 School Year

Janet Chabola stated that she thought there was going to be additional discussion on this matter. When the calendar issue came up a few months ago it seemed very important that there would be a discussion so that there is some educational soundness to the calendar, such as not having winter recess two weeks before finals at the high school. She is very disappointed that there is not any discussion before this action takes place. Ms. Paspalis clarified that this is for 2011-2012, but the discussion can be looked at for next year. Board members thanked

Mrs. Chabola for reminding them. It was moved by Ms. Goldberg and seconded by Ms. Siever to adopt the Culver City Unified School District Re-Opener Collective Bargaining Proposal to the Association of Classified Employees (ACE) for the 2011-2012 School Year as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

15. Board Business

15.1 Board Goals and Objectives Update

Todd Johnson asked that the Minutes reflect a correction in the agenda. He has not seen a contract for the solar project. Mrs. Jaffe stated that it is coming to a future Board meeting. Rania Sabry-Dailey stated that she wanted to clarify that she is asking the District to move forward with the capital projects. Her requests for asbestos reports should not halt the progress of the capital improvements to Robert Frost Auditorium. Due to the late hour of the meeting Board members agreed to continue this topic to a future Board meeting.

15.3 2012 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election

Board members agreed to go with Ms. Siever’s suggestions for nominees which were Carol Raines-Brown and Emma Sharif. The nomination form to take action on this matter will be brought to the next regular board meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Chardiet, seconded by Ms. Paspalis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Silbiger adjourned the meeting at 11:28 p.m. in memory of the high school students at Chardon High School.

Approved: _____
Board President

Superintendent

On: _____
Date

Secretary