

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

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Regular Meeting</u></b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b><u>May 24, 2011</u></b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b><u>City Hall – Mike Balkman Chambers 9100 Culver Boulevard Culver City 90232</u></b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b><u>6:00 p.m. – Public Meeting 6:01 p.m. – Closed Session 7:00 p.m. – Public Meeting</u></b>

**Board Members Present**

**Scott Zeidman, Esq., President  
Karlo Silbiger, Vice President  
Katherine Paspalis, Esq., Clerk  
Patricia Siever, Professor, Member  
Steven Gourley, Member**

**Staff Members Present**

**Patricia W. Jaffe, Interim Superintendent  
Ali Delawalla  
Gwenis Laura, Ed.S.**

**Call to Order**

Board President Mr. Zeidman 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 7:00 p.m. with all Board members in attendance. Pre-K students attending La Ballona Elementary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

Mr. Zeidman 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. Siever and seconded by Mr. Silbiger that the Board adopt the agenda of May 24, 2011 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**9. Consent Agenda**

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 Siever requested that item 9.2 and 9.4 be withdrawn.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

9.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 26, 2011

9.3 Certificated Personnel Reports No. 20

9.5 CCHS Teacher Nancy Goldberg to Attend the College Board Readings in Louisville, Kentucky, June 8-18, 2011

9.6 2011-2012 Designation of CIF Representatives to League

9.7 Office of Child Development Agency Annual Report

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

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to inquire about instructional supplies on four pages. She asked if there was any way to get the supplies from one vendor. Mr. Delawalla informed Ms. Siever that they were specialized supplies and the companies that were listed were the ones that supply those items. Ms. Delawalla also informed Ms. Siever that he would get her information that she requested regarding balances in the special education accounts.

**9.4 Approval is Recommended for the Certificated Personnel Reports No. 20**

Ms. Siever withdrew this item to state that she would like to see the total amount spent from the general fund. Ms. Paspalis asked Mr. Delawalla how much staff time is going into the requests being made by Ms. Siever. Ms. Paspalis would like to have that information before he has staff breaking down anymore information in the

reports. Ms. Paspalis felt that there have been many requests made to staff, and staff is limited at this time to continue honoring the requests. Ms. Siever would like to have the information to respond to any requests made by her constituents. Ms. Siever thanked Mr. Delawalla for his hard work.

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis to approve items 9.2 and 9.4 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **10. Awards, Recognitions and Presentations**

### **10.1 Spotlight on Education - Office of Child Development**

Mrs. Audrey Stephens, Director of the Office of Child Development, presented the Board with information on the before school and after school programs, and vacation camps. She also informed the Board that the pre-school programs are being honored by a feature in a publication by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) titled *Ready for Pre-K*. The District was one of the fifteen districts chosen to be included. Mr. Zeidman thanked Mrs. Stephens for her presentation and spoke about his experience as a parent with his son attending OCD. He stated that his son was very ready for kindergarten.

### **10.2 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 May. The recipients were Casey Kastendiek from El Marino School; Savannah House from El Rincon Elementary; Angela Martinez from La Ballona School; Vanessa Gottlieb from Linwood E. Howe School; Liam Wall from Farragut School; Cody Chin from Culver City Middle School; Alexis Godisi from Culver Park High School; and Oscar Pineda 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.

### **10.3 Culver City Education Foundation – Building Blocks for Education**

Amy Shilton and Richard Hibbs thanked the honorees, Mary and Michael Nabours, for all of their hard work and years of service at El Marino Language School. Mrs. Nabours expressed her disappointment when she heard that there would not be an elementary music program next year. Ms. Paspalis stated her kids had Mrs. Nabours and they both learned so much. She wanted to personally thank Mrs. Nabours.

### **10.4 Recognition of the Toby Rubenstein 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chess Tournament**

It was corrected that the tournament was actually the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual tournament, and not the 3<sup>rd</sup> as stated on the agenda. Mr. Adamucci and other teachers from the middle school gave a brief description of how the chess tournament began and they recognized Timothy Martin, Jake Ray, and Jack Bishop as the three winners. Neil Rubenstein thanked everyone that helped make the tournament come to fruition and provided their support. Mr. Zeidman thanked Mr. Rubenstein for hosting the event and stated that it was a great honor to Mr. Rubenstein's wife Toby. Ms. Siever thanked Mr. Rubenstein for being such an active community member.

### **10.5 Student All-League Athlete Recognition**

Jerry Chabola, Athletics Director, asked all of the athletes present to come forward. He thanked the parents and the Booster Club for all of their support for the students. Mr. Chabola spoke of the accomplishments of the different sports teams, the All-CIF Performers, and announced that the Athlete of the Year Awards that will take place the following week. He reported that approximately three-quarters of the teams qualified for CIF finals. Mr. Chabola extended congratulations to all of the teams and wished the seniors good luck in their futures. All of the players present came to microphone and gave their name and the sport played.

## **11. Public Recognition**

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

Mrs. Jaffe reported that she will be hosting a Coffee & Chat on June 10<sup>th</sup> in the Multi-Purpose Room at the middle school and Mr. Dan O'Brien from the Education Foundation will also be present. She informed the Board that information was being gathered for the last issue of Culver Currents in Print and the publication has received very positive comments. Mrs. Jaffe reported on her attendance at Linwood Howe's Buckaroo Bash and their Scholastic Book Faire which she thought was great. She also attended the middle school's presentation of Joseph

and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Mrs. Jaffe and Dr. Pam Magee, Principal at the high school attended a meeting at the AP College Achievement Board. Mrs. Jaffe reported that Building Bridges Charter School hearing at LACOE regarding the charter's appeal will take place on June 7<sup>th</sup> and she plans to attend. She also thanked Toni Fournier, Kelly Wilcox, and Amy Levit for their hard work with the BTSA Program.

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

Ms. Laura reported that state testing has concluded and the CST results will come in August.

Mr. Delawalla reported that Governor Brown released the May Revise on May 16<sup>th</sup>. It showed increased spending on education, but also showed that expenses for special education students were being transferred to school districts on some of the services.

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

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

Sophia Greenberg, Culver City Middle School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver City Middle School, including the Dance O'Grams doing very well; and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Exit Interviews coming up.

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

Sandra Maldonado, Culver Park High School Student Representative, reported on activities at Culver Park High School, including the seniors working very hard to complete their credits; and the seniors not being able to attend Grad Night.

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

Jamie MacIntosh, Student Board Member, reported on activities at Culver City High School, including the Robotics Team win; sports update on the baseball and volleyball teams; Summerfest – A Day at the Beach will take place on Thursday with music, games, rides, and a teacher/student dunk tank. Miss MacIntosh also reported that this year's Prom theme is "A Night in Wonderland." Link Crew is starting up again, and ASB decided on a Club of the Year and Teacher of the Year. They will be announced in the next few weeks. AVPA's Java Gala will take place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Kirk Douglas Theater which is the night before prom. Students will also participate in the Culver City Art Walk. Miss MacIntosh also stated that her family was looking to possibly sending her younger sibling to Linwood Howe Elementary.

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

Members of the audience spoke about:

- David Mielke extended congratulations to the graduating students. He said he was concerned to hear that there would be no elementary music next year, and that the Board Meeting was the first he had heard about it. Mr. Mielke is also concerned that Culver Park cannot attend Grad Night.
- Robert Zirgulis spoke about his previous proposal to the District to drill in Baldwin Hills to raise money for the District. Now he is proposing a windfall profit tax.
- Linda Rosenberg stated that she was happy to hear that Miss MacIntosh's family was looking at Linwood Howe for her younger sibling to attend. She thanked Board members that attended the Buckaroo Bash. Mrs. Rosenberg encouraged the Board to put enrollment and plans for kindergarten classes back on the agenda so that there could be an actual dialogue. She was a little disturbed to hear that there was no plan regarding the classes because the District did not have all of the data.

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

Board Members spoke about:

- Mr. Gourley asked about the Culver Park issue and asked Mrs. Jaffe to update the Board. Mrs. Jaffe explained that she spoke with Dr. Magee and Mrs. Turner and that Grad Night is based on attendance and tardies. Ms. Siever inquired if that is what Grad Night was based on what percentage of students can attend from Culver Park. Mrs. Jaffe stated that students who met the attendance/tardy criteria would be eligible to participate. Ms. Siever thinks that the policy needs to be reviewed. Mrs. Jaffe

confirmed that Mrs. Turner is going to make sure that students understand the requirements at the beginning of the year.

- Ms. Siever asked if the elementary music program was being eliminated. Mrs. Jaffe confirmed that it was not. Mrs. Jaffe stated that it will look different, but the elementary schools will still have music. Ms. Siever reported on her attendance at the Buckaroo Bash, and commended the students and faculty for all of their hard work.
- Mr. Silbiger extended congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Nabours. He stated he was glad the elementary music issue was brought up and asked Mrs. Jaffe to provide an update in her Friday Memo. He reported on his attendance at the middle school's musical and stated it was unbelievable! He thanked Jo-Anne Cooper for meeting with him. Mr. Silbiger thanked everyone who put on the Immersion Symposium. Mr. Silbiger would like to get information on the consultants employed in the District, such as who they are and how much we are paying.
- Ms. Siever added that what Mr. Silbiger was requesting regarding the consultants was the same information she was requesting for the items in 9.2. She clarified that she was not requesting the names of the consultants, but just the amounts.
- Ms. Paspalis stated that the Immersion Symposium was fabulous, including the El Marino Children's Day and the immersion reunion. She reported on her visit to La Ballona and stated that there was a lot of enthusiasm with the parents and teachers. Ms. Paspalis attended Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at the middle school and thought it was great. She announced that Friday is a furlough day and the whole District would be closed.
- Mr. Gourley stated that Mr. Mielke has said previously that no one has tried negotiating with the union. Mr. Gourley also wanted to know what Mr. Mielke meant by his "25 teacher" comment. He is misrepresenting information that is going back to his union members. Mr. Mielke asked that Mr. Zeidman enforce the Civility Policy. Mr. Zeidman read out loud the Civility/Complaint Policy. Mr. Gourley stated that the policy only relates to Mr. Mielke as an employee, but not as a union representative. Mr. Gourley feels that Mr. Mielke has lied and felt that Mr. Mielke should apologize to Mrs. Jaffe and staff for his lies.
- Mr. Zeidman called Miranda Meyers to the podium and commended her on her softball playing. She is the only girl to play on the team, and she has won the honor of the Girl Scout Silver Award.

## **12. Information Items**

### **12.1 First Reading of Revised Board Policy 4218, Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action**

Mrs. Leslie Lockhart, Director of Human Resources, presented the policy and explained the changes that were made to the policy. Mr. Zeidman asked that the policy be on the next agenda for approval.

### **12.2 Citizens' Oversight Committee**

Crystal Alexander, Chair of the Citizen's Oversight Committee, provided an update on the usage of the Measure EE Parcel Tax expenditures. Mr. Gourley thanked Ms. Alexander and the committee for the report and their hard work. Ms. Siever would like to know how much was used for salaries. Ms. Alexander stated that she would have to defer to Mr. Delawalla. Mr. Delawalla will put the information in his Friday Memo as he did not have it available. Ms. Siever also requested the information prioritization. She would like to know how much funds have been spent and in what areas. Mr. Zeidman asked if Mr. Delawalla to speak briefly about these issues at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Silbiger thought Ms. Alexander's report was great. Roberta Sargent inquired about the senior exclusion and wanted to know if it was a large number of seniors that filed for the exemption. Mr. Zeidman stated that it is usually about ten percent that opts out. Debbie Hamme asked if the surveys regarding prioritizing the options for funding were taken into consideration. She knows that security was listed as a priority. Mr. Zeidman asked Mr. Delawalla to include that information in his report. Ms. Paspalis thanked the committee for their time.

## **13. Recess**

The Board recessed at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

**14. Action Items****14.1 Superintendent's Items****14.1a Approval is Recommended for the Board of Education to Adopt Goals and Objectives**

It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Mr. Gourley that the Board adopt the Goals and Objectives as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.1b Adopt Findings of Staff Report Denying Kids Achieve! Charter School Petition**

Mr. Zeidman asked if anyone was present from the school that would like to speak. There were no members of the audience who wished to speak. Ms. Paspalis stated that she could not believe no one was in attendance on behalf of the school. She stated that there was a lot of time and money spent on the petition once it is received. Mr. Silbiger stated that the petition was horrible and he will be voting against it. He felt that if the District is going to ask the charter schools to be specific than the District should also be specific in the denial. Mr. Gourley commented that the laws on responding to charter schools are a "bunch of legislative nonsense." He respects Mr. Silbiger's admiration of charter schools, but thinks the process should be simpler. It was moved by Ms. Siever and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board deny the Kids Achieve! Charter Petition as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.1c Approval is Recommended for the Waiver of Board Bylaw 9320, Meetings and Schedule of Proposed Meeting Dates**

It was moved by Mr. Silbiger and seconded by Ms. Paspalis that the Board waive Bylaws of the Board 9320, Meetings, for the purpose of canceling the regularly scheduled meetings of August 9, 2011; August 23, 2011; November 27, 2011; December 27, 2011 and April 10, 2012 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.1d Approval is Recommended for Resolution #35-2010/2011, Candidate Statement for November 8, 2011 Governing Board Elections**

It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Mr. Silbiger that the Board approve Resolution #35-2010/2011, Candidate Statement for November 8, 2011 Governing Board Elections as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.2 Education Services Items****14.2a Approval is Recommended for New Course at Culver City Middle School – Mandarin Chinese I**

Madeline Ehrlich stated that she was quite surprised that there was no action plan. She would like to table the matter to look at it further and asked the Board to hold off on voting. Liz Mejia stated that she was also concerned about the class and putting money towards the class when there is no plan. Joanna Hoffman-Clubb stated her complaints about the current immersion program at the middle school. She would like to see that fixed before bringing in another immersion class. Board members stated their concerns with the class such as the size of the class, copyright issues, funding, and a strategic plan. The Board was in agreement that the item should be tabled. The item failed to pass due to a lack of a motion.

**14.3 Business****14.3a Second Reading and Approval of Administrative Regulation 3100, Business and Non-Instructional Operation – Budget; Formation of the Community Budget Advisory Committee**

Board members discussed additional revisions including the removal of one administrator and having a student member that would have a provisional vote. Mr. Zeidman asked that it be brought back with the new revisions. Mr. Gourelly stated that he thinks the committee is useless and he will not support it at all.

**14.4 Personnel Items**

**14.4a Approval and Adoption of Indefinite Action for Management, Confidential and Other Unrepresented Employees for 2011-2012**

It was moved by Mr. Gourley and seconded by Ms. Siever that the Board approves and adopts the Indefinite Action for Management, Confidential, and other unrepresented employees for 2011-2012 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**14.4b Approval is Recommended for Resolution #36-2010/2011 (HR), Regarding Layoff of Classified Personnel**

Debbie Hamme expressed her concerns about laying off another security guard. Mrs. Jaffe stated that staff is looking at the reorganization of the security department. Mr. Silbiger stated he feels uncomfortable cutting the position without seeing the plan. Ms. Siever would like to wait until the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. She would also like to see a reorganizational plan. Ms. Paspalis stated her understanding was there was more of a scheduling issue and she did not have a problem to vote now. It was moved by Ms. Paspalis and seconded by Ms. Siever to move item 14.4b to the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Silbiger, seconded by Ms. Paspalis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Board President Mr. Zeidman adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary