

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Education  
March 13, 2008**

<p>The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the board room by President Carpenter with all members present. The meeting was recessed immediately to closed session.</p>	<p>Call to Order; Recess to Closed Session</p>
<p>The following persons were present:</p>	<p>Present</p>
<p>Zoe Carpenter, President Marv Gilbert, Vice President Joan Gardner, Clerk Royce Moore, Member Linda Woods, Member Jennifer Walters, Superintendent Staff and press representatives Others as registered</p>	
<p>The regular meeting of the Board of Education was reconvened to open session by President Carpenter at 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Reconvene to Open Session</p>
<p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Karley Salas, a Miller School student.</p>	<p>Pledge</p>
<p>It was moved by Joan Gardner, seconded by Royce Moore, and passed 5-0 to approve the agenda.</p>	<p>Approval of Agenda</p>
<p>It was moved by Linda Woods, seconded by Marv Gilbert, and passed 5-0 to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 21, 2008, and the special board meetings of February 27 and March 5, 2008.</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p>
<p>Tom Crenshaw, principal of Miller School, detailed how his staff is meeting the districtwide focus of improving reading comprehension. Tom said the whole Miller staff is looking forward to seeing the results of this year's assessments. He read the teachers' comments about the outstanding qualities of their champions. Students recognized were: Logan Shade, Ryan Moyes, Guillermo Perez, and Karley Salas.</p>	<p>Student Champions</p>
<p>Darren McDuffie, principal of Del Dios Middle School, started his presentation by sharing the Del Dios slogan, "Del Dios Dragons Are Turning Up the Heat on Reading Comprehension," and then he highlighted what Del Dios is doing to meet the districtwide focus on comprehension. He read teachers' comments about the outstanding qualities of their champions. Students recognized were: Rochelle Grimmitt, Luz Solis, and Alexander Sierra.</p>	
<p>President Carpenter asked if there was anyone wishing to speak to an item on the agenda or on another topic that lies within the board's jurisdiction.</p>	<p>Oral Communica- tions</p>
<p>Brenda Tejada Heil, Lorraine Silva, Patti Kamholz, and Connie Blackburn spoke about the need for lower class sizes in kindergarten and keeping the class size at 20 instead of raising it to 30.</p>	

Pat Bavender asked for an extension to the timeline for those teachers protesting their layoff notice to prepare their defense. Since schools are closed for the next two weeks for spring break and many teachers are traveling, she asked that the deadline be extended to March 31.

Pioneer teacher Kimberly Youngblood said she hears teachers' expressing frustration with the district because they believe the administration has been withholding the COLA increases the state designates for their raises. She knows this is not the case and asked that staff be better informed about how the COLA increase is used.

Mission Middle School office manager Rosie Banuelos shared her concern about the proposed cuts to school office staffing. Schools have been working at a bare-bones level since clerical support was cut several years ago. If counselors and assistant principals are cut, she fears that service and safety would be compromised.

BTSA secretary Cindy Bruemmer expressed the same concerns with proposed cuts to education center staffing. All departments within the Education Services division were reduced to 11 months with the last round of deep budget cuts. Now, they are facing being cut another 11 days, which would be devastating to the work output and the income of the staff working in these departments.

Richard Garner described himself as an "unhappy parent" and is upset about the proposal to cut counselors. He said it is the responsibility of the district's leadership to put as much pressure on legislators as it takes to avoid the losses to public education funding contained in the governor's proposed budget.

Robin Estrada, Dawn Ayles, and Mark Gale detailed the role of counselors. They receive hundreds of referrals every year, and even at the present staffing level, many students don't get seen. There is a critical need for counseling services to students, and counselors should not be cut.

Central School library technician Ron Black talked about the panic and frustration being expressed among school library techs due to the proposal of losing even more library services from proposed cuts. They already operate with a small budget and with almost no staff to assist them.

President Carpenter reported all written communications have been shared with board members.

Written Communications

President Carpenter reported that no action was taken in closed session.

Closed Session

Superintendent Walters told everyone how proud of our employees she is and assured everyone that there is not one proposed cut that anyone in administration or on the board wants to see. They agree the district is running as lean as it possibility can and that these proposed cuts cannot be made without detrimental effects on the district and the momentum gained in academic achievement with our students.

2008-09 Budget Development Upda

She explained that public education is funded primarily by the state and every district is required to adopt a balanced budget by June 30. Since the district must adopt its budget before the state budget is adopted, cuts must be made according to the best information available at the time. If the state budget doesn't contain the reductions to education being proposed, the district would restore as many staff/services as possible. Cabinet is continuing its work on

identifying another \$3-4 million in reductions because the target goal of cutting \$12 million hasn't been reached yet.

She has made budget presentations to school PTAs and reported that the state and local PTA is very actively working on a campaign to lobby legislators. Yesterday, hundreds of education teams from districts throughout the state met with legislators lobbying for no reduction in funding for public education.

Superintendent Walters announced that through recent negotiations, EEEA has denied the cost-cutting proposal to reduce teachers' work year by two days.

The next regular board meeting on March 27 will have a budget workshop format with public comments and consent items only.

Linda Woods urged everyone to inundate the local legislators' offices with the message that public education funding must not be cut. She reminded everyone that there is no luxury of much time to get the plight of education out to the public.

Board Discussion

She said she respects the decision of the association not to accept a two-day reduction, but she asked that they now come back with suggestions for cuts that would offset the amount of \$800,000 savings represented by the two-day work year reduction.

Marv Gilbert said that he is open to more ideas, but he shared his disappointment that the association did not approve the two-day reduction.

Zoe Carpenter explained that districts don't have autonomy or local control of funding. It's the state that holds all the funding controls. The district's leaders are preparing for a worst-case scenario and hoping for the best. She said that the board finds this process extremely painful because the district is already operating lean and values the contributions of its entire outstanding staff.

Paula Pendell, Coordinator of Extended Learning, presented the plan for a radically reduced summer school program. Only four sites, Lincoln, Oak Hill, Felicita, and Pioneer would be open for summer school and each would run grade levels third through eighth. All four sites (down from 11 last year) will have a credentialed administrator, two office clerks, and a custodian on campus at all times.

Summer School

Middle school students will start and end earlier in the day than the lower grades to limit comingling. Lower grades will be staffed at 25:1 in order to guarantee a 20:1 ratio and approximately 1,300 K-5 students will be served. Middle school classes will be staffed with a ratio of 30:1, with an anticipated enrollment of 1,050. Reimbursement from the state for summer school is \$3.81 per student, equating to \$439,356 in income as compared to \$341,123 in expenses. This is a potential earnings to the district of \$90,000. Kindergarten prep and first-grade classes are not reimbursable from the state, so it would cost each site \$7,000 to run them. Jan Zelasko is trying to secure enough money through early education funding to offer these classes.

It was moved by Marv Gilbert, seconded by Joan Gardner, and passed 5-0 to approve dates for the summer school Reading Acceleration Program, Language Academy, Kinder Prep, First Grade Academy, proficiency programs, and the extended school-year program, July 7, 2008, through July 31, 2008; further approve the employment of staff to implement these programs based on sufficient student enrollment and the availability of certificated personnel.

<p>Carol Rouse reviewed for board members changes made to the 2007-08 budget since the 2007-08 Budget Revision (1). It was moved by Royce Moore, seconded by Joan Gardner, and passed 5-0 to approve the 2007-08 Budget Revision (2).</p>	2007-08 Budget Revision (2)
<p>It was moved by Marv Gilbert, seconded by Joan Gardner, and passed 5-0 to approve the 2007-08 Second Interim Report; authorize the president of the Board of Education to sign a positive certification.</p>	2007-08 Second Interim Report
<p>Linda Woods reported that she has done the following since the last meeting: read in a classroom for Read Across America; volunteered at Lincoln and Felicita for diabetes screening for the childhood obesity pilot; participated in Farr Avenue School's jog-a-thon to raise money in memory of David Gibney's son, Christopher; attended an evening event at Bear Valley; attended the COMPACT meeting, attended the budget committee meeting; and saw the performance by Orange Glen students of the <i>Magic Flute</i> at the East Valley Community Center.</p>	Members' Reports
<p>Royce Moore reported that he did the following: attended the L. R. Green second-grade classes' patriotic program; read to students for Read Across America; participated in a field trip to Roynon's Museum of paleontology; and attended luncheon at Bernardo for the state visitation team, which was there to evaluate Bernardo for a Distinguished School award.</p>	
<p>Joan Gardner read to a fourth-grade class for Read Across America; attended the performance of the <i>Magic Flute</i>; and represented the board at the Curriculum Advisory Council meeting.</p>	
<p>Marv Gilbert read to students for Read Across America and attended the "Avenue to Academic Success" night at Bear Valley.</p>	
<p>President Carpenter attended the presentation of patriotic songs performed by the L. R. Green second-grade classes; ran in the Farr jog-a-thon; attended the evening event at Bear Valley; and attended the budget committee meeting.</p>	President's Report
<p>Superintendent Walters announced that the visitation team informed Ron Smith, Bernardo School principal, that their recommendation as a distinguished school would be forwarded to Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.</p>	Supt's. Report
<p>Ken Wood introduced himself as counsel for Soltek, which was the second lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the modernization phase two project for Mission Middle School. Mr. Wood said Soltek should have been awarded the bid and a formal protest has been filed because this didn't happen. The contractor awarded the bid was the only contractor that did not comply with all the information the district required, therefore, making the contractor non-responsive.</p>	Oral Communication re Item 16.12, Award of a Bid
<p>It was moved by Royce Moore, seconded by Marv Gilbert, to pull consent item 16.12: award a contract in the amount of \$879,900 to HAR Construction for the Mission Middle School (formerly Grant Middle School) modernization phase two project; further, retain the option to award alternate bid items at a later date, and wait for the appeal resolution.</p>	Removal of Conser Item 16.12, Award of a Bid
<p>It was moved by Linda Woods, seconded by Royce Moore, and passed 5-0 to take the following action:</p>	Consent Items
<p>Approve Certificated Personnel Order 2007-08-12.</p>	Human Resources

Approve Classified Personnel Order 2007-08-12.

Approve public employee discipline/dismissal/release.

Adopt Resolution 2007-08-17 related to the reduction or discontinuance of particular kinds of classified service for 2008-09.

Approve independent contractor agreement with Academic Entertainment, Inc. to provide two 45-minute assemblies for all Central School students at a cost not to exceed \$995.

Educational  
Services

Approve independent contractor agreement with Mad Science of San Diego to provide fifth-grade assemblies at Juniper School for a cost of \$610.

Approve recommendations from the Administrative Hearing Panel for expulsion in Student Case 2007-08-02.

Special Education/  
PPS

Approve reinstatement in the following Student Cases: 2006-07-07, 2006-07-19, 2006-07-24, 2006-07-32, 2006-07-36, 2006-07-50, and 2006-07-51.

Approve Comprehensive Safe School Plans for all district schools.

Approve the revised BP 6153, Field Trips.

Approve addendum to agreement with Kleinfelder, Inc., for additional DSA inspection services related specifically to the Orange Glen and Reidy Creek marquees' project.

Business Services

Approve filing a Notice of Completion for Kirk Paving, Inc. for the concrete drain repair at Central School; authorize the superintendent or designee to execute and/or sign necessary documents.

Approve filing a Notice of Completion for Kirk Paving, Inc. for the concrete driveway repair at Del Dios Middle School; authorize the superintendent or designee to execute and/or sign necessary documents.

Approve filing a Notice of Completion for Kirk Paving, Inc. for the new drain box installation, pipe clean out, and asphalt repair at Lincoln School; authorize the superintendent or designee to execute and/or sign necessary documents.

Approve filing a Notice of Completion for Kirk Paving, Inc. for the concrete and drain box installation at Lincoln School; authorize the superintendent or designee to execute and/or sign necessary documents.

Approve filing a Notice of Completion for Kirk Paving, Inc. for the concrete installation by the new drain at Mission Middle School; authorize the superintendent or designee to execute and/or sign necessary documents.

Approve district participation in the next County Cooperative Auction and/or use e-Surplus Auction web site to dispose of surplus property; further approve the disposal of any surplus property that the district is unable to sell.

Accept with thanks donations to Escondido Union School District pursuant to Education Code 41303 for the period of 2/9/08 through 2/29/08 in the amount of \$32,715.58. Fiscal Services

Approve Nutrition Services financial reports for January 2008.

Approve Nutrition Services purchase orders for February 2008 in the amount of \$209,664.32.

Approve purchase orders for the period of 2/3/08 through 2/23/08 in the amount of \$363,259.88.

It was moved by Marv Gilbert, seconded by Royce Moore, and passed 5-0 to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. Adjournment

**I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct copy of the actions of the Board of Education at a regular meeting, as recorded in these minutes.** Certification

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Jennifer Walters, Superintendent/Secretary

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Joan Gardner, Clerk

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