

ADOPTED MINUTES
EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 27, 2007

A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Call to order

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Tim Cary in the Superintendent's Office.

After letting those in attendance know the specific items to be discussed during Closed Session, and asking if anyone in attendance had any comments or questions regarding the Closed Session agenda, the Board entered Closed Session for discussion of the following items:

- a. Discuss hearing panel recommendations regarding possible order(s) to expel three students. Any action will be taken in public session during the Student Services section of the public portion of the board meeting. All appropriate actions will be taken to preserve the confidentiality and legal rights to privacy of the students. (*EC 35146, 48918[c]*)
- b. Discuss and take action about certificated and classified personnel listed in the consent agenda related to personnel action. (*GC 54954.5, 54957*)
- c. Conference with labor negotiator (agency negotiator for the Board is Asst. Superintendent Steve Volmer) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Proposals from the Faculty **Association** regarding compensation package and other contract issues. (*GC 54957.6*)
- d. Conference with labor negotiator (agency negotiator for the Board is Asst. Superintendent Steve Volmer) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Proposals from the CSEA regarding compensation package and other contract issues. (*GC 54957.6*)

The Board entered Open Session at 6:07 p.m. in the Boardroom.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Wehr.

3. Attendance

Board Members Present

Timothy M. Cary
Kirby L. Ehler
Mary T. Muse
Madeline T. Restaino
Lori M. Veerkamp

D.O. Staff Present

Sherry J. Smith, Executive Secretary
Dennis Carocci, Assistant Superintendent
Steve Volmer, Assistant Superintendent
Stephen Luhrs, Assistant Superintendent
Patty McClellan, Facilities Director
Stevie Clark, Director, Student Services
Sylvia Torres, Assistant to the Superintendent

Student Board Member

Jessica Moore*

Association Representatives

Dave Hamblen, Faculty Association President
Patricia Manthey, Classified Association President

*Absent

Others

Staff: 1

Community Members: 0

4. Requests to change the agenda and approval of agenda.
Mrs. Muse moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Restaino. Motion unanimously carried (5-0).

5. Consent Agenda
Mrs. Muse moved to approve the following consent agenda items, having pulled Item 5.m - Request for Approval of Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program Funds. Seconded by Mrs. Restaino. Motion unanimously carried (5-0).
 - a. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2007, Board Meeting.
 - b. Approval of Commercial Warrants Report (copy available at District Office).
 - c. Approval of Routine Certificated Personnel Action.
 - d. Board Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coaches.
 - e. Donations Received.
 - f. Adoption of Updated Board Policies and Bylaws: BP 1312.3, BB 9220, BB 9323.
 - g. Approval of School Block Grant Proposal for the 2006-07 School Year for El Dorado High School.
 - h. Approval for El Dorado High School Band to Participate in a Field Trip to Heritage Music Festival, Santa Clara, April 13-15, 2007.
 - i. Approval for Oak Ridge High School Speech & Debate Club Members to Participate in a Field Trip to CHSSA State Speech Tournament, Fullerton, April 19-22, 2007.
 - j. Approval for Ponderosa High School ROP Autobody Students to Participate in a Field Trip to Skills USA State Championship, Riverside, April 19-22, 2007.
 - k. Approve California Design West Architects, Inc., Agreement for the Oak Ridge High School Phase 4 Expansion Project.
 - l. Permission to Dispose of Obsolete/Unusable Furniture, Equipment, and Textbooks.

Consent Agenda Item m - Request for Approval of Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program Funds, was pulled and discussion held as follows:

Mrs. Veerkamp questioned the benefits of four, two-hour, sessions in which to help parents learn English. She asked if the funds couldn't be used at Ponderosa rather than El Dorado High School where there is already an extensive program in place for Spanish speaking parents. Mr. Carocci distributed information on the grant and its intended use in the District. The program is designed to connect limited English speaking parents with school and to provide an opportunity for parents to feel comfortable working with the school and helping their student. The grant requires that districts use the money at the school with the highest concentration of limited English proficient students. Mr. Carocci explained that the District did not initiate the program last year, but rather saved the money in order to purchase 25 software training CDs. He explained that this is a district program, and Ponderosa families would be welcomed to participate. Approximately 15-20 parents are expected to attend the meetings. It was noted that this grant money can not be used in any other program; if it is not used, it is lost.

Mr. Cary moved to approve the Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program Funds. Seconded by Mrs. Restaino. Motion carried (4-1).

B. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

This item was not needed.

C. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

No request for correspondence was received.

D. INVITATION TO BARGAINING UNIT PRESIDENTS/DESIGNEES AND/OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

1. CSEA President Pat Manthey noted that it is time for negotiations once again. She shared that seniors are feeling antsy, staff are encouraging them to hang on for five more weeks of school.
2. Faculty Association President Dave Hamblen greeted Mr. Wehr, Oak Ridge High School Principal, in attendance at this meeting. Mr. Hamblen commented that he enjoyed working with Mr. Wehr and appreciated the accessibility Mr. Wehr has always provided to connect with a site principal.

E. FACILITIES SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

No items were presented for information or approval under this section of the agenda.

F. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

No items were presented for information or approval under this section of the agenda.

G. BUSINESS SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion and Direction Concerning Allocation of Block Grant Money, Other One-Time Expenses, and Ongoing Upkeep of School Grounds.

Mr. Luhrs presented this item. He reviewed the process by which the Board's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) came up with the recommendations for District use of approximately \$143,000 in one-time District Block Grant funds. After soliciting suggestions from staff districtwide, the BAC narrowed the list to items which would benefit all sites. A total of nine items were identified and evaluated. Ultimately three items were identified as being most advantages and feasible: vans for all sites at a cost of \$23,000 each for a total of \$115,000; a smart station for the District Board Room for staff development and meeting use, costing \$5,000; and 10 new video cameras for buses, costing 2,000 each for a total of \$20,000. Mr. Luhrs pointed out that the Board could support some or all of the recommendations of the BAC or choose other items they felt to be more critical.

Mr. Luhrs advised the Board that field equipment items (three seedavators and four PTO mowers) identified as part of the nine items beneficial districtwide were not recommended due to a larger plan developed through the superintendent's Facilities Working Group. The plan, to improve and better maintain district athletic fields, includes \$26,800 in equipment and requests an ongoing cost of \$65,000 from the general fund budget for grass seed, fertilizer, and other landscape materials. Mr. Luhrs noted that the seedavators and mowers which could still be purchased from the District one-time Block Grant funds instead of some part of the expenditures recommended by the BAC should the Board choose. He further advised that the field maintenance plan is scheduled to be brought before the Board on April 24, 2007. Dan Augino, Director of Maintenance and Operations, and the Plant Supervisors would be present to discuss budget needs.

Mr. Luhrs provided reasoning on why other items were not being recommended by the BAC. He explained that the cost for new phone systems was estimated at \$300,000 - \$400,000, well beyond the Block Grant monies available. Additionally, there are mixed responses to a survey of schools whether the phone system is in need of replacement at this time. One school bus, at a cost of \$130,000 each, would leave little for any other expenditures. Computer items were removed from the recommended list when the district became eligible for Microsoft funds.

The Board held discussion on the recommendations of the BAC. Mr. Luhrs was directed to proceed with the preparation of board items for approval at the next board meeting for the video cameras and the Smart Station. The Board withheld direction on the vans until Mr. Luhrs can compile bids and gather data on safety features.

H. STUDENT SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Administrative Hearing Panel Recommendation from Expulsion Hearings.
(GC 54954.5[h]; EC 35146, 48918[c])

- a. Mr. Ehler reported that the Board of Trustees adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommended Order of the Administrative Panel as the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order of the Board of Trustees regarding the expulsion of **Student #06-53**. The Board finds that **Student #06-53** violated California Education Code Sections 48915, part (a)(2), 48900, part (k), as well as District Administrative Regulation 5144.1, parts F.2.b. and C.11

Mr. Ehler moved to: (1) order the expulsion of **Student #06-53**, and (2) designate the term of expulsion as the second semesters of the 2006–07 school year and the first semester of the 2007-08 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Veerkamp. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

- b. Mrs. Veerkamp reported that the Board of Trustees adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommended Order of the Administrative Panel as the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order of the Board of Trustees regarding the expulsion of **Student #06-54**. The Board finds that **Student #06-54** violated California Education Code Sections 48915, part (a)(2), 48900, part (k), as well as District Administrative Regulation 5144.1, parts F.2.b. and C.11.

Mrs. Veerkamp moved to: (1) order the expulsion of **Student #06-54**, and (2) designate the term of expulsion as the second semesters of the 2006–07 school year and the first semester of the 2007-08 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Muse. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

- c. Mrs. Restaino reported that the Board of Trustees adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommended Order of the Administrative Panel as the Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order of the Board of Trustees regarding the expulsion of **Student #06-55**. The Board finds that **Student #06-55** violated California Education Code Sections 48915, parts (a)(3) and (a)(2), 48900, part (k), as well as District Administrative Regulation 5144.1, parts F.2.c., F.2.b. and C.11.

Restaino moved to: (1) order the expulsion of **Student #06-55**, and (2) designate the term of expulsion as the second semesters of the 2006–07 school year and the first semester of the 2007-08 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Muse. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

I. PERSONNEL SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Initial Proposals from CSEA and the District Regarding Negotiations for 2007/08 and Public Hearing.

The Board of Trustees received the District's and CSEA's proposals regarding negotiations for the 2007/08 school year for the purpose of holding a hearing, in accordance with Board Policy 4243.1 and in compliance with provisions of Section 3547 (c) of the Education Employment Relations Act.

Mr. Volmer reported that the District and CSEA have mutually agreed to open the following articles:

Article VI	Duty Hours
Article VII	Salary
Article X	Insurance Protection
Article XI	Retirement Benefits
Article XII	Holidays
Article XII	Vacation Scheduling

In addition, the District will open:

Article II	Recognition
Article III	Employee Rights
Article VII	Working Conditions
Article XIV	Leaves
Article XVI	Layoff and Reemployment
Article XVIII	Employee Safety

Further, CSEA would will open:

Article IV	Evaluation Procedure
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Mr. Cary opened this item for public hearing and asked for any comments from the public. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed. No further action was required.

J. OTHER – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Comments.

Mrs. Smith informed the Board that it is time to conduct interviews for the selection of the 2007-08 student board member. She asked for one Board member to participate as a non-voting member of the interview panel. Interview dates being considered are April 30 or May 1. Mrs. Veerkamp and Mrs. Muse indicated they could be available on May 1. Mrs. Veerkamp stated she could also be available on April 30. Mrs. Clark, Director of Student Services, will contact the Board members with further details.

2. Update of Strategic Planning Goal I - Personalizing Schools Through an Emphasis upon Measuring Student Connectedness with School.

In accordance with Board direction, the second Board meetings of each month have been designed to provide study sessions for the Board. This night's study session intended to provide the Board an overview of how schools are addressing the District goal of personalizing schools and tracking improvement by measuring student connectedness. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Clark facilitated this presentation.

Mrs. Smith named activities in which the District has participated this year in its efforts to launch the development of internal and external assets in students. Clay Roberts, a renown author and public speaker, addressed staff in August and conducted Parent Power Nights at UMHS and ORHS in March, speaking on the 40 Developmental Assets that young people need to grow and develop qualities essential to success. In November, 9th and 11th grade students participated in a Healthy Start Survey, intended to measure external and internal asset levels. In January, district schools participated in a Safe School Symposium with the County Office of Education and other El Dorado County school districts.

Mrs. Smith spoke about external assets; caring relationships, expectations and participation within school, community and peer environments. The results of the Healthy Start Survey were provided

and reviewed. Mrs. Smith noted that our students expressed high connectedness within school and community environments, but that more work is needed in building peer connectedness. Mrs. Clark discussed internal assets; commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity. She indicated that research shows that students who have external assets are more likely to have or improve their internal assets.

The Healthy Start Survey results will serve as one baseline measurement of student connectedness. The survey, taken by 58% of freshmen and 60% of juniors, will be administered at two-year intervals to measure connectedness between 9th grade and 11th grade. Additionally, the District and schools, will be gathering data (failing grades, absences, discipline contacts and interventions) for current freshmen students, at specified grading periods. Those measures, along with achievement results, will be used to formulate measurements on whether we are succeeding in the personalization of schools and connectedness of students.

In response to concerns expressed by Mr. Cary regarding survey results in the Peer Environment category, Mrs. Smith shared that the District elected not to administer the Home Environment component of the survey. She shared that in order to administer the survey, parents had to provide signed permission forms. Although most students would score their home environment high, the District did not want to chance losing any participants because families were uncomfortable answering the home component.

Mr. Wehr, Oak Ridge High School Principal, was asked to share examples of activities that accentuate connectedness. Mr. Wehr responded that his staff has spent time developing a common language and intervention with students. Staff members are out during breaks, greeting students at the door, getting to know students beyond the surface. They have found that building relationships with students is helpful when things are tough. Pre-structured group meetings are held each week to discuss students and challenges they may be experiencing. The school has developed a series of interventions to support students in-school and out-of-school. Another plan is to super-size the link to students -- sustaining a welcoming environment, ensuring students are aware of the multitude of opportunities open to them outside class, such as Key Club. Mr. Wehr shared a prime example of students connecting with school, community and peers, in that 10 teachers will be leading 100 students in rebuilding a home. He commented that there are multiple examples at all school sites within the district of how we are connecting students. There is a realization that it is important to look at the whole child. Academics are only one piece. Building assets will carry over into all aspects of a student's life.

The Board thanked Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Clark for the information. They acknowledged and praised staff for the positive steps being taken to improve student connectedness. Board members expressed an interest in observing the pre-structured group meeting process mentioned by Mr. Wehr and requested dates of Guidance Study Team Meetings. The Board commented on the Clay Roberts presentation and suggested distributing the foldout pamphlet titled *150 Ways to Show Kids You Care* to parents at various school activities or through mailings.

K. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOARD AND CABINET, IF NEEDED, AND REVIEW OF TIME LINE FOR FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS.

Announcements and topics of interest reported by board members/cabinet and time line of items for future board meetings

Mr. Ehler reported that he had the pleasure of attending the PHS Ambassador's Club Spring Banquet, featuring PHS alumni, Scott Harvey, as the keynote speaker. Entertainment was presented by the PHS boys' quartet, a "Bunch of Goofy Guys." Mr. Ehler commented that it was an enjoyable and well-attended event.

Mr. Carocci provided an update on the progress being made with the math and science benchmark assessment exams.

Mr. Volmer shared that the Tier I interviews for the UMHS principal would be held on Wednesday, March 28. The Tier II interviews will be conducted on Thursday. Mr. Volmer also shared that the District is advertising for teachers. He noted that there is no growth, only attrition. There are not many retirements this year, but several employees have been granted leaves of absence.

Mrs. Muse reported on the county citizen's advisory meeting she attended on March 13. She indicated that the advisory group thought the District was doing a great job planning for growth. They were accepting that it will be quite a while before a new school is built.

Mrs. Veerkamp commented on the ROP Board Meeting she attended at Golden Sierra High School. She noted that it was exciting to see the work the students were doing; they demonstrated great skills. Mrs. Veerkamp was impressed with the construction and auto programs.

Mr. Luhrs reported that our Transportation Department received a Certificate of Achievement from the California Highway Patrol for the seventh consecutive year. The inspections are conducted every two years, so the department has essentially held the satisfactory rating for a total of 14 years. Mr. Luhrs commended the Transportation Department for this great accomplishment.

Mrs. Smith commented on the ACSA regional awards ceremony. Don Buchheit, Jerry Smith and she were recognized as Administrators of the Year. Administrators from the Buckeye and Black Oak Mine school districts and the El Dorado County Office of Education were also honored.

L. CLOSED SESSION

This session was not needed.

M. OPEN SESSION

This session was not needed.

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Sherry J. Smith
Executive Secretary