

**ADOPTED MINUTES**  
El Dorado Union High School District  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Regular Board Meeting  
**OCTOBER 25, 2011**

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**A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Board Clerk Lori Veerkamp at 5:01 p.m. in the El Dorado Union High School District 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 one student. 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 student. *(EC 35146, 48918[c])*
- b. Consider one student petition for readmission into El Dorado Union High School District.
- c. Discuss and take action about certificated and classified personnel listed in the consent agenda related to personnel action. *(GC 54954.5, 54957)*
- d. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Asst. Superintendent Stevie Clark and Assoc. Superintendent Baldev Johal) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Proposals from the **Faculty Association** regarding compensation package and other contract issues. *(GC 54957.6)*
- e. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Asst. Superintendent Stevie Clark and Assoc. Superintendent Baldev Johal) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Proposals from the **CSEA** regarding compensation package and other contract issues. *(GC 54957.6)*
- f. Discuss Superintendent's contract, evaluation, goals, and objectives.

The Board reconvened Open Session at 6:25 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Matt Barnes.

3. Attendance

Board Members Present

Timothy M. Cary  
Lori M. Veerkamp  
Kevin W. Brown  
Mary T. Muse

D.O. Staff Present

Chris Hoffman, Secretary to the Board  
Baldev Johal, Associate Superintendent  
Stevie Clark, Assistant Superintendent  
Steve Volmer, Assistant Superintendent

Todd R. White

Chris Moore, Assistant Superintendent  
Patty McClellan, Director  
Sylvia Torres, Assistant to Superintendent

Student Board Member

Aubree Thayer

Association Representatives

Ellie Jaynes, Classified Association Treasurer  
Evie Taylor, Faculty Association President

Others

Staff: 17

Community Members: 8

4. Requests to change the agenda and approval of agenda.  
Mrs. Muse moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Brown seconded. (Aubree Thayer, aye.) Motion unanimously carried (5-0).
5. Consent Agenda  
Mr. Brown moved to approve the consent agenda items as corrected. Mrs. Muse seconded. (Aubree Thayer, aye.) Motion unanimously carried (5-0).

**B. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

There were no recognitions this evening.

**C. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to be acknowledged.

**D. INVITATION TO BARGAINING UNIT PRESIDENTS/DESIGNEES AND/OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD (GC54954.3)**

Ms. Jaynes, Classified Association Treasurer, attended in place of Jason King. She had no comments.

Ms. Taylor, Faculty Association President, commented that the bookmarks presented to the Board and District Administration this evening were designed by UMHS and EDHS students who participated in last week's Teen Read Week.

**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Superintendent Hoffman welcomed and thanked Principals, Directors of Guidance and Counselors in attendance this evening to support the Guidance/Counseling presentation to the Board.

At UMHS' invitation, Mr. Hoffman attended the Student Ambassador training at UMHS on October 13. The group is focused on identifying activities throughout the year that make students feel safe. Mr. Hoffman is impressed with the willingness of these kids to take on issues themselves, rather than waiting for adults to address the issues.

Mrs. Hanson was recognized for her work in development of the EDUHSD Virtual Academy on which she will make a presentation tonight. Mr. Hoffman acknowledged a virtual instruction model has been talked about for many years, but this year we had the right person to do the job, in the right place.

Information was just received that the State actually has sold construction bonds. The District is on the unfunded list and is hopeful that with priority ranking we may get funded or at least moved up the list. The fact that bonds are being sold again is great news.

Mr. Hoffman provided an update on the President's offer of an NCLB waiver. As last reported, California did not respond to the offer and was holding out to see if any states would show interest in the waiver. He explained Governor Brown's concern is that the state wants to be waived from the requirements of NCLB but does not want to have to follow the caveats that are tied to the President's current offering, which are very similar to those of Race to the Top. It was hoped that if very few states accepted the waiver the President might have to go back and remove some of the caveats. However, 37 states, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have shown interest in the waiver as it stands. California will now need to rethink its position and decide if we really want relief from NCLB, and whether we're willing to accept the current requirements

Mr. Hoffman has been making his way through the sites and noted many more Smart Boards have been installed in the District.

**F. FACILITIES SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no items under this session.

**G. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. El Dorado Union High School District Virtual Academy at Shenandoah High School

Assistant Superintendent Moore introduced this item, noting that approximately 400-500 students living in the El Dorado Union High School District boundaries are currently engaging in online learning and virtual academies offered by institutions outside our district and county. In 2010, as part of the reauthorization of Shenandoah High School's charter, the district began discussions about how to offer our own online learning program and came up with the concept of having a virtual academy at Shenandoah High School. As a result, embedded online learning opportunities were included in the reauthorization of Shenandoah's charter. Through the efforts of Mrs. Hanson, Director of Alternative Education, to research online programs and meet with representatives of community colleges and schools throughout the state with programs in place, the El Dorado Union High School District Virtual Academy at Shenandoah High School is now proposed for implementation in August 2012. The academy is designed to provide students with a college preparatory online option aligned with our District goal for each student to engage in a rigorous academic program that prepares students for postsecondary and vocational endeavors. Mr. Moore commented that the district believes that the Virtual Academy offers a far better online learning experience than programs outside the district in which our students currently engage.

Mrs. Hanson took the floor to provide an in-depth overview of the Virtual Academy. She stated the Academy will bring forward all key elements of the district and positives aspects of Shenandoah High School. The proposed EDUHSD Virtual Academy will offer a WASC accredited, "a-g," Honors, and AP courses, as well as Advanced Education options through local community colleges. It is designed to capitalize on the current opportunities for job shadowing, internships, work experience, field trips, community service and service learning which have been important pieces of Shenandoah. To build connections, students will work with a grade-level advisor each year who serves as a mentor and coordinates each student's experience with their families. Each student will also have with a learning plan team to help create individual learning plans. The program has built in school and college partnerships that include guaranteed admission to CSUS, concurrent enrollment at other high schools and community colleges and college visits.

The Virtual Academy will incorporate learning already provided in our schools through APEX Learning, Cyber High Courses and Moodle. A blended 4X4 schedule will offer a mix of year-long courses and courses that will be completed in the traditional “semester” period of time. There will be more than enough opportunities to complete the district’s graduation requirements, with the added possibility of completing 1 year’s worth of college credit. Advisory meetings will be held weekly for students to review their progress, receive new assignments, collaborate with their team, receive assistance, and work on service learning or projects. Individual and small group tutoring, labs and support will be available, both face-to-face and virtually. Students will have the option of taking their course assessments at the closest comprehensive high school campus by appointment. Subject area experts, such as Foreign Language, Science and AP teachers, will be available to support students. Mrs. Hanson’s presentation reviewed grade level course of studies, proposed teaching schedules, and staffing options based on enrollments of 100, 75 and 55 students.

Mrs. Hanson identified 8 online programs within the county competing for our students. Most are not as comprehensive or rigorous as the Virtual Academy we will offer. The District strongly believes this is a supportive, interactive program that will meet the needs of a specific segment of students. The District’s goal is to attract those students who would otherwise enroll in Horizon and Visions. Additionally, as a charter school, Shenandoah can also accept students from contiguous counties, which the district is willing to do.

Mr. Moore provided funding figures for each of the staffing models based on enrollment of the 100, 75 or 55 students, noting that 55 students are needed to break even. Should enrollment fall short, it may require a reduction in staffing. He added that because the District already has licenses for APEX and Cyber High, the only new cost would be the portal licensing.

The Board of Trustees voiced excitement for the opportunities the EDUHSD Virtual Academy at Shenandoah High School will offer the segment of our students who have previously sought an alternative learning experience. The Board directed the District to proceed as planned. Mr. Moore and Mrs. Hanson were thanked for their presentation and commended for their efforts in developing this new online learning program.

#### **H. BUSINESS SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no items under this session.

#### **I. STUDENT SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **1. Directors of Guidance and Counseling Department 2011-12 Update.**

Assistant Superintendent Volmer began tonight’s presentation with introductions of the Guidance staff in attendance to provide information and respond to questions from the Board: Directors of Guidance: Lara Clickner - EDHS; Glen Swedelson - ORHS; Keri Hanson - PHS; Denise DeRosa -

UMHS; and Counselors: Jill Howard - ORHS; Gale Dwyer, Patti Schrichfield, and Karen Parker - PHS; and Mike Ziegler - UMHS.

Mrs. Clickner served as spokesperson for the Guidance staff, providing a very comprehensive overview of the guidance program within the El Dorado Union High School District. The 4 Directors of Guidance and 12 Counselors work through a wide variety of academic, social, emotional, and personal student centered models that support each student and the ongoing changes impacting our communities. The Guidance Staff has adopted the Superintendent's motto of "Each kid, every day" and strives to ensure the needs of all students are being met. Of significance is the improved and increased outreach to middle schools. Counselors are instrumental in identifying and connecting with incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders before they ever get to us. Each school's interaction, though done differently, is based on providing the best opportunities for the students to be successful. Once in high school, 9<sup>th</sup> grade career units and 4-year plans are developed to raise awareness of the many options available by their senior year.

Unlike in many other districts, the Directors of Guidance and Counselors in the El Dorado Union High School District are a part of the Management Team and as such have direct responsibilities in dealing with supervision and participating in the resolution of problematic issues that help the schools advance in all areas. In recent years, Counselors and Directors of Guidance have collaborated and developed academic and credit recovery programs that support each student's progress utilizing Cyber High, APEX and teacher generated materials. McKinney Vento, Connections, AVID, Health Academy, and Natural Resources are all programs that continue to provide opportunities or support to individual student's academic and personal success. School guidance teams, 504 case management, IEP Administrator, data management for CALPADS, and EL Services coordination are some aspects of their leadership roles on campus. Most recently, Counselors and Directors of Guidance have become involved in the coordination of both Winter and Summer Intersession, site-based ILC programs, and assisting with student Tdap vaccination requirements. In addition, due to the increased economic impact on families, Counselors are assisting more families eligible for McKinney-Vento, free and reduced lunches, assistance with testing fees, and mediating concerns at home to help students continue in the classroom.

The many efforts of the Counselors and Directors of Guidance can be linked to outcomes that are key indicators of the success of students within EDUHSD. Some of these areas of success include UC A-G completion rates, Advanced Placement program, graduation rates, and CAHSEE pass rates. They have also been involved with Connections plans for students who they are trying to work within a constructive, therapeutic manner in hopes of reducing the number of students expelled.

Directors of Guidance acknowledged and thanked the Board of Trustees' for their unwavering support of the Counseling programs throughout the years. The Board's approval of programs such as APEX, Cyber High, Academic Recovery and Intersession has greatly increased the opportunities for students to learn differently and be successful.

The Board of Trustees commended the Directors of Guidance and Counselors for the excellent and encompassing job they do in guiding, assisting, and providing students with opportunities and options that lead to successful experiences.

2. Consideration of Student Disciplinary Matters Relating to Expulsions and/or Readmissions.  
(GC 54954.5[h]; EC 35146, 48918[c])

- a. Lori Veerkamp moved that the Board of Trustees adopt 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 #11-07. Kevin Brown seconded. The motion carried (4-0).
- b. Lori Veerkamp moved that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation to readmit Student #11-C to the District with restriction for placement at Independence High School. Consideration for readmission to a comprehensive site may be requested after the 2011-12 school year. Todd White seconded. The motion carried (4-0).

*Mr. Cary made mention that due to Mrs. Muse's departure prior to Item I.2, only 4 board members voted on the motions related to Student Disciplinary Matters.*

**J. HUMAN RESOURCES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no items under this session.

**K. OTHER – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no items under this session.

**L. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOARD AND CABINET, IF NEEDED.**

Mr. Moore shared that while looking at UMHS' decreasing enrollment the District has been exploring the potential for specialized or magnet programs at UMHS. One such program with an affordable cost is the Air Force Jr. ROTC. In our region, Whitney High School in Rocklin School District and Casa Robles High School in the San Juan School District have Jr. ROTC programs. The UMHS Site Council has arranged for a contingent from UMHS to visit Whitney High School on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and take a VIP tour with the Colonel who has been running the program. More information will be forthcoming. Mr. Moore also stated he will be looking into the possibility of offering SAT proctoring on the east end of the district, attributing the lack of a proctoring center as a reason that a greater number of students up the hill may not be taking the exam.

Mrs. Clark recently returned from a trip with her husband to finish out his travels through the last 4 of the 50 states. Her travels included visits to two very special schools with great historical significance, Monroe Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas which was one of 3 segregated schools and now the national historical site for Brown vs. Board of Education; and Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas where the Little Rock Nine stood. Mrs. Clark commented these significant stops made her very proud to be a public educator and stressed amazement at all the suffering so many youngsters endured to get us where we are today.

Mrs. Torres noted that as a former counseling secretary and registrar she understands just how much Directors of Guidance and Counselors do to support students. It was evident this evening that the scope of services they provide has continued to grow and improve.

Ms. Thayer stated the Virtual Academy sounded academically astounding and she would have enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of the program. She is, however, concerned that the work experience and internships are optional. She worries that society, and her generation in-general, are becoming too dependent on Facebook and text messaging, at the risk of losing face-to-face communication skills. She pointed out that 2 hours of teacher contact does not seem to be enough time to build social skills, especially when there most likely will not be any interaction with other students. She wondered what could be done to incorporate a social aspect into the program. Ms. Thayer also commented on the amazing job counselors do to prepare students for opportunities beyond high school. She is pleased to see that counselors are focused on pushing every kid to make them aware of the many options available. Ms. Thayer proudly shared that PHS Homecoming Dance sales have exceeded 1,000 tickets, several hundred more than usual years; everyone wants to attend.

Mr. White shared that he and Mrs. Veerkamp attended the CTE Advisory Meeting. In speaking with people from the business world, it seems the Work Readiness Certificate will have great buy-in if we can commit to upholding the quality. Mr. White is excited about the EDUHSD Virtual Academy which he understands will be marketed, from the get-go, as a program of excellence, rather than remedial. He believes students who will enroll are already studying outside the comprehensive environment and that their parents have determined this to be a feasible delivery of education.

Mr. Brown stated that he, too, found texting and loss of personal communication worrisome when his family started their texting plan. He shared that although texting is still a big part of his children's world, there are now more phone calls and personal communications. Mr. Brown was on the EDHS campus on October 11 and experienced the very impressive bonfire, which he suggested could be the start of an annual event. It was very well attended and had very good safeguards in place, including ROP Fire and county fire engines. Mr. Potter and his class were commended for the great job organizing the bonfire. Mr. Brown recognized the EDHS Speech and Debate Teams who participated in a Sacramento forensics contest over the weekend and had two teams go undefeated, his son, Kyle's Knowledge Team in Parliamentary and the Varsity Team in Congress. His son has successfully placed in the last three tournaments, including first place in this last tournament. The EDHS Speech and Debate Team, with only 6-7 members, is the smallest of any team in the debate contests, but doing extremely well.

Mrs. Veerkamp attended the "You're Hired" Career Day held at the El Dorado Center campus of Folsom Lake College on October 21. The event was attended by 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from across the county. Mrs. Veerkamp was impressed that students came dressed professionally and took the event seriously. She commented we have a great group of kids coming through our schools in the near future. Mrs. Veerkamp thanked Assistant Superintendent Moore for his presentation of materials at the CTE Advisory Committee meeting on October 18. It was clear the community/business members were excited that the Work Readiness Certificates will be implemented this year. Also attended by Mrs. Veerkamp was the El Dorado County School Boards' Association committee meeting last week. The

Association approved paying for the upcoming CSBA course offered in Sacramento to new or first year board members. Information is available on the CSBA website. The committee also discussed offering more CSBA classes through the El Dorado County Office of Education, which Dr. Barber will be exploring with CSBA.

Mr. Cary, in acknowledgement of Ms. Thayer's earlier comment on the Virtual Academy, referenced a newspaper article about a Waldorf school in Silicon Valley that doesn't allow any electronic gadgets. He noted what we are doing is offering our students options. We are not aiming at having a large virtual academy of 4,000 students that would reduce comprehensive enrollments, we merely want to offer the type of program that a segment of students who want to learn differently have already chosen; evidence exists that approximately 500 such students are already attending programs outside our district. Superintendent Hoffman intervened to add that the Virtual Academy was designed to take advantage of what SHS already does so well—job internships and placement, in which 85% of students choose to participate. It is believed that from a parent's perspective, the job shadowing piece will be looked on much more favorably than just offering computer-time and working online, and will be a big reason why they choose our program and why we expect it will be so successful. Mr. Cary noted he is also very supportive of the Jr. ROTC program. He thanked Mr. White for participating on the committee exploring the program for UMHS. Mr. Cary concluded by recognizing tonight's conversations as another reason why our district continues doing so excellently.

**M. CLOSED SESSION**

This session was not needed.

**N. OPEN SESSION**

This session was not needed.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Christopher R. Hoffman  
Executive Secretary