

**PARADISE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2009**

**1. OPEN SESSION**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Paradise Unified School District was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

All members were present: Michael Greer, Donna Nichols, Tim Titus, Tom Conry, Lisa Nelson

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**5. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Conference with labor negotiator (Government Code §54957.6):
  - 1. Certificated negotiations regarding Teachers Association of Paradise/CTA/NEA
  - 2. Classified negotiations regarding Paradise Classified Employees Association
- B. Personnel Issues (Government Code §54957):
  - 1. Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- C. Conference with real property negotiator (Government Code §54956.8)
- D. Conference with legal counsel regarding existing/anticipated litigation (Government Code §54956.9)
- E. Student Issues (Education Code S35146, §48918, and §72122):
  - 1. Hearing to consider expulsion of student # 1305011
  - 2. Approval of stipulated suspended expulsion for students #

**6. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

Open session was reconvened at 6:48 p.m.

**7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

President, Michael Greer stated that the only decision made during closed session was regarding a student issue. Mr. Titus moved, Mr. Conry seconded, to expel student #1305011, and assign student to Independent Study, pending permanent placement. Motion carried.

**9. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION**

- A. Moment of Silence in memory of Tat DeSoto

Mr. Bylund read a statement of accomplishments by Mr. DeSoto. He was a member of the Senior Advisory Council (since 1986). He served on several committees, including budget committees, strategic planning and Focus on the Future. His contributions were significant to the District, and a moment of silence was observed in his honor.

**10. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Report from Student Representative

Student representative Kyra Gephardt gave a brief report on activities at Paradise High School.

- B. SHINE Report

Jody Banks, project director of the SHINE Grant gave a report of the accomplishments of the grant as the second year of the project unfolds. The grant is a 6 million dollar grant, and will be in effect for four years. It is a community plan that brings a safe and respectful environment for the students.

Elements of SHINE:

- Safe school environments and violence prevention education
- Alcohol and other drug prevention programs
- Student behavioral, social and emotional supports
- Mental health services

- Early childhood and social and emotional learning programs

The Core Management team consists of members from Paradise Unified School District, Butte County Sheriff's Office, Butte County Department of Behavioral Health, Paradise Police Department, and Butte County Probation Department.

Also reporting for the Grant were Steve Hamm (mental health), Jacky Hoiland (youth development), and Dena Kapsalis (truancy and restorative justice).

C. University of California Cooperative Extension Nutrition Education Program

Johnna Pressman, coordinator of the UC program presented a Power Point slide presentation regarding the value of the nutrition education program and how it is integrated into the classroom and school.

D. Items of information from:

1. Home Tech Charter School
2. Children's Community Charter School
3. Paradise Charter Middle School

E. WASC Mid-term Progress Report

Mike Lerch gave a mid-term progress report and update on WASC. The mid-term review will take place on February 10, 2009. He reported significant developments in the past three years, ongoing school improvement, and school wide action plan goals and future plans.

F. Security Camera at Paradise High School

Mike Lerch reported that security cameras have been installed in several areas throughout the Paradise High School campus in hopes to improve security around campus. Signs are posted to warn everyone on campus that they may be under surveillance. The cameras have already proven to be instrumental in resolving some student issues.

Mr. Conry asked if the Student Representative, Kyra Gephardt would mind making a statement.

Kyra stated that the cameras are a great addition; a feeling of security will not come from cameras alone, but will have to come from a community, which still needs to be developed. This will come from student involvement and participation in their school.

One student asked if cameras will be placed in the classroom to monitor teaching and teaching strategies.

Mr. Lerch stated that no conversation has taken place regarding classroom monitoring. The cameras are for outside the classroom, parking lots, etc.

Mr. Bylund stated that the surveillance policy clearly states the limitations on the use of cameras in classrooms.

G. Reduced workload program

Ed Changus stated that the current contract covers all elements in the Ed Code §4492. It allows employees who reach the age of 55 to think about the program to see if they qualify. They have to have been in the district for ten years and immediately preceding their application for reduced workload they have to have five full time years. The option of part time employment will be exercised at the request of the employee and the only time it is revoked is if there is an agreement by consent of the employer and the individual. The benefits are paid fully for that part time teacher and the retirement benefits are the same as full time coverage.

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tamra Conry, teacher at Paradise Intermediate School, TAP representative, and representative of NEA,

announced that March 2<sup>nd</sup> is Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America Day. She provided a Dr. Seuss book, Snow People, for each elementary school in the district, donated by the Teacher's Association. Tamra Conry also invited the Board members to be at elementary schools to watch the activities and read to students on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Glenn Stankis provided a memo to the Board titled, "Why PUSD Can't Seem to Achieve Compliance with State Requirements for Promoting Patriotism (e.g. flag display at our schools)," and read it in its entirety,

**12. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Bylund asked Susan Stutznegger to report on the State of Affairs for Paradise Unified School District. Mrs. Stutznegger reported that as of November, the state announced that there was a 27.8 billion dollar deficit; and then in December it was announced that the deficit was at 41.7 billion dollars with \$6.3 billion in cuts to education.

What does it mean for PUSD?

Revenue limit is a combination of state aid and property taxes. The Governor's proposal would decrease this discretionary funding:

|         |              |               |
|---------|--------------|---------------|
| 2007-08 | \$24,278,001 |               |
| 2008-09 | \$21,98,005  | (\$2,290,996) |
| 2009-10 | \$20,135,865 | (\$4,142,136) |

What does \$6 million look like?

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Paradise Classified Employees Association (PCEA) | Teachers Association of Paradise (TAP) |
| - 266 Contracted Employees                       | - 230 Contracted Employees             |
| - 179 FTE (Full Time Equivalent)                 | - 209 Full Time Equivalents (FTE)      |
| - Total Salary - \$5,686,592                     | - Total Salary = \$12,699,613          |

What can be done right now? Discretionary Funds are allocated on ADA

|              | P-2 ADA  | Change   |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| 2003-04      | 4,468.56 |          |
| 2004-05      | 4,446.11 | (22.45)  |
| 2005-06      | 4,313.59 | (132.52) |
| 2006-07      | 4,156.62 | (156.97) |
| 2007-08      | 3,934.18 | (222.44) |
| 2008-09 Est. | 3,699.68 | (234.50) |

The Impact of Attendance

- Every absence is a loss of \$33.98/Day in Revenue Limit funding.
- Our current attendance rate is 94.85%
- A 1% change in attendance would be an increase of 36.99 ADA
- This would increase revenues by \$204,415

District Administrators have begun meeting almost daily

A hiring and spending freeze have been initiated.

Administration is working with PCEA and TAP

Budget committee meetings will begin on Jan. 27th

There have been communications with employees, and a meeting at the Performing Arts center will take place tomorrow for all staff members.

Glenn Stankis asked if the public may come to the meeting. Mr. Bylund stated that the meeting is for employees, with specific focus on employees, and is not open to the community. There will be multiple opportunities for community input.

Mr. Conry stressed that the Board has assured that multiple meetings will be held to inform the community.

Mr. Greer indicated that this is not only a school district problem, it's a community problem, and all will be included.

Glenn Stankis asked about the possibility of Cedarwood Elementary being closed. Mr. Bylund stated that there

are no current plans, nor has it been presented to the Board. But, with this budget situation, all new information has to be included as it comes in, and appropriate decisions must be made.

Mr. Titus stated that the stakeholders in this situation include everyone in the community. The District and the Board must pull together and use creativity, and are hoping for a voice from all who have suggestions.

Mr. Conry asked to meet in two weeks for the purpose of discussing the state budget as it applies to Paradise Unified School District.

Mr. Greer stated that it would be good to schedule a Board meeting every two weeks until decisions can be made.

Mr. Conry stated that he would like the other board members to understand that he has other interests in mind and would like to discuss what the Board can do to prevent this action at the state level. This action from the state will prevent the district from providing a good education for the children of Paradise.

Mr. Titus stated that he has been asked by the new assemblyman to be the educational representative on his committee, and will have a voice. Mr. Titus suggested that a time could be set up to meet with the assemblyman privately, and to express concerns.

Mr. Greer asked to see a resolution come back at the next meeting having to deal with the state budget crisis, and to let them know how we feel as a Board.

Glenn Stankis asked how much ADA is likely to be reduced.

Mr. Greer stated that he has heard it could be \$30,000 per classroom. But, the figures are not specific at this time.

Mr. Conry stated that behind the scenes talk about what the Governor, the leaders of both parties in the assembly and the senate have come together and thought it was okay to do, but that reduction of \$30,000 per classroom, they will also ignore prop 98 and make it permanent, never to be paid back. This would have a permanent devastating impact to each of our classrooms, and we cannot let that happen.

The board took a short break at this time.

**13. CONSENT ITEMS:**

- A. Approve fundraising request by:
  - 1. Jack Danielsen of Paradise High School, to distribute discount cards from Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream and LaSalsa Fresh
  - 2. Jim Mullen of Pine Ridge School, to hold a read-a-thon in February
  - 3. Kathy Dailey of Paradise Pre-School, to hold a silent auction, bake sale, Papa Murphy's Pizza sale on February 7, 2009
- B. Accept donations:
  - 1. From Pastor Mark Stenback, Our Savior Lutheran Church for donating \$150.00 to Ridgeview High School
  - 2. From Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Hales to Cedarwood Elementary School for \$500.00, to the Rise and Shine Program
  - 3. From Derald and Anna Simpson, in the amount of \$500.00 to Paradise Adult School
  - 4. From a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, to the German American Partnership Program (GAPP) at Paradise High School, in the amount of \$500.00
- C. Approve Monthly Personnel Report
- D. Approve Payroll and Vendor Claims
- E. Approve minutes of board meetings from:
  - 1. December 9, 2008
  - 2. December 16, 2008
- F. Approve CAHSEE Waiver of Test Passage for Students With a Disability

There was a brief discussion and amendments made to the minutes of December 9, 2009 as well as a change regarding the payroll and vendor claims item to Ponderosa Elementary rather than Paradise Elementary. Mr.

Titus moved, Mr. Conry seconded to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**14. ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Denial of claim for damages:

1. Submitted by James Gingerich, Esq., on behalf of Hunter Inman in the amount of \$210,000.00

Mr. Titus moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to deny the claim for damages submitted by James Gingerich, Esq. Motion carried.

B. Retiree health coverage

Mrs. Stutznegger explained the retiree health coverage proposal for married couples. It is possible to pay only for one retiree, and then pick up the other retiree when the other spouse reaches 65 years of age. It would not affect the retirees and their coverage, but would help the district save some money.

After questions by Mr. Conry, Mr. Titus, Donna McDonald and Ray Wood to clarify the retiree health coverage plan, the Board decided to take more time for discussion among employee groups before a decision is made. Mr. Greer asked to have a notice sent out to TAP, Classified and Administrative employees in order to get their input. No action was taken and the item was tabled for two weeks. Mrs. Stutznegger stated that she would get confirmation from the JPA on any pharmaceutical changes that could result if this item were to go into affect.

C. Approval Resolution # 08/09-17 re: Special Education Behavioral Intervention plans [Hughes Bill] Mandated Cost Claim Settlement

After a brief discussion, Mr. Titus moved, Mrs. Nelson seconded, to approve resolution #08/09-17. Motion carried.

D. Request for leave of absence by Angela Hillman-Raines, from February 17<sup>th</sup>, through the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Conry moved, Mr. Titus seconded, to approve the request for leave of absence as submitted. Motion carried.

E. Resolution #08/09-16 re: Credential Authorization, EC §44256(b)

Mr. Titus moved, Mrs. Nelson seconded, to approve resolution #08/09-16. Motion carried.

**15. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. First reading of new or revised Board Policies/Administrative Regulations:

1. Revised AR/BP #3452; Business and Noninstructional Operations, Student Activity Funds

Mr. Changus explained that this policy and regulation are modeled after student body regulations and procedure that most schools follow. PUSD's policy was in need of updating.

B. District Income and Expense Report

C. Quarterly Investment Report

Mr. Titus asked if all funds are in bonds. Mrs. Stutznegger stated that no, a fair amount is in bonds, but the general fund money is in money market accounts as well as bonds, and that they are in very conservative accounts.

D. Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report

There were no complaints to report

- E. Review updated BP/AR #3515.11; Business and Noninstructional Operations, Video Surveillance

Mr. Bylund indicated that the Surveillance policy and regulation were brought to the Board for review after Board requested changes were made.

- F. Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee

The Budget Advisory committee will commence on January 27, 2009. Invitations were sent to those on the committee last year, and Mr. Bylund asked for other representative suggestions by the Board.

Student, Kyra Gephardt asked if a student representative could sit on the advisory committee. Mr. Bylund stated that that would be fine, and that he would see to it that a student is invited.

Mr. Conry asked, because two Board members were already part of the committee, if he could sit in the back of the room. Mr. Bylund stated that it could be in violation of the Brown Act if there was any conversation among the three Board members. Mr. Conry asked if he could just listen and not participate. Mr. Greer suggested that Mr. Conry could be an alternate.

- G. Administrative Organizational Chart Revision

**16. BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None

**17. FUTURE BOARD ITEMS**

None

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

The open session meeting was adjourned 9:46 p.m. and the Board returned to closed session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**OPEN SESSION**

Open session reconvened

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION**

No action was taken during closed session

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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President, Board of Trustees

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Clerk, Board of Trustees