

**PARADISE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2008**

1. OPEN SESSION

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Paradise Unified School District was called to order by President Tim Titus at 5:30 p.m. at the Paradise High School gymnasium.

2. ROLL CALL

Four members were present: Tim Titus, Gary Manwill, Michael Greer and Donna Nichols. Bob DiPietro was absent.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

5. CLOSED SESSION:

- A. Conference with labor negotiator (Government Code §54957.6):
 - 1. Certificated negotiations
 - 2. Classified negotiations
- B. Personnel Issues (Government Code §54957):
 - 1. Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (2 employees)
- C. Conference with real property negotiator (Government Code §54956.8)
(2 items)
- D. Conference with legal counsel regarding existing/anticipated litigation (Government Code §54956.9)
- E. Student Issues (Education Code §35146, §48918 and §72122):
 - 1. Hearing to consider expulsion of students #1003095, #907003, #1105035
 - 2. Approval of stipulated suspended expulsions for students # 1003162, #1103055, #1205081, #1004203, #2202949, #1005044, #2201511, #2203321, #2203520

6. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Open session was reconvened at 6:37 p.m.

7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

- E. Student Issues (Education Code §35146, §48918 and §72122):
 - 1. Hearing to consider expulsion of students #1003095, #907003, #1105035

A hearing was not held for student #1003095. By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, the student was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion for violation of Ed Code §48900c, and 48900a.2, and referred to Ridgeview High School. Carried.

A hearing was not held for student #907003, as student has moved to another school district. By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #907003 was expelled from Paradise Unified School District for violation of Ed Code §48900a. Carried.

A hearing was held in closed session regarding student #1105035. By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #1105035 was expelled and referred to Ridgeview High School for violation of Ed Code §48900.M.2. Carried.

- 2. Approval of stipulated suspended expulsions for students #1003162, #110355, #1205081, #1004203, #2202949, #1005044, #2201511, #2203520.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #1003162 was placed on a stipulated suspended

expulsion and referred to Ridgeview High School for violation of Ed Code §48900m.1 and 48900m.2. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #110355 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900a.2. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #1205081 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900.2. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #1004203 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900c. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #2202949 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900c. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #1005044 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900c. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #2201511 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Secondary for violation of Ed Code §48900b, 48900k, and 48900i. Carried.

By a 4 – 0 vote of the Board, student #2203520 was placed on a stipulated suspended expulsion and referred to Honey Run Academy Elementary for violation of Ed Code §48900a.1, 48900k, and 48900b. Carried.

9. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION

None

10. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Principal's Reports
 - 1. Paradise Intermediate School
 - 2. Paradise High School
 - 3. Ridgeview High School
 - 4. Honey Run Academy

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. MacArthur addressed the Board. She presented the Board members with teacher forms teachers could use to withdraw from the California Teacher's Association. She offered them to CTA members after learning the CTA had contributed over \$1 million to defeat Proposition 8, and rallied parents to let it be known if they are upset by this.

12. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Superintendent Bylund reported that after being in his new position for two and one-half months, he has observed excellent teaching, wonderful programs and excellent staff making those programs effective. He reported that PUSD will be unveiling an updated website soon and that it will have video clips of teachers, parents and students showing what is happening in Paradise Unified schools. He is proud to be in a community where citizens share their thoughts with its representatives.

13. CONSENT ITEMS:

- A. Approve amended minutes for regular board meeting on August 19, 2008
- B. Approve minutes for regular board meeting of September 16, 2008
- C. Approve fundraising request by:

1. Paradise Elementary School Parent Club to hold yearbook sales from October through May to raise funds for various projects throughout the year.
 2. Bob Schofield of Paradise High School to hold a rummage sale/recycle day on October 25, 2008, to earn money for the band fund.
 3. Bob Schofield of Paradise High School to sell holiday items from October 9 – 16, 2008, to raise money for the band fund.
 4. Fifth grade classes at Ponderosa Elementary School to sell cookie dough in October to raise money for study trips.
 5. Pine Ridge School to sell Chico Bags with school logo, from October 1 through October 22, 2008 to raise funds for study trips, incentive awards, books, and computer software.
 6. First grade classes from Ponderosa Elementary School to hold a book-a-thon on October 17, 2008, to raise funds for study trips and art projects.
 7. Daniel Nelson of Paradise High School to hold a “Bobcat Takedown Challenge” from October 1, 2008 to December 1, 2008, where wrestlers obtain pledges and donations to raise funds for tournament expenses and travel costs.
 8. Cedarwood Elementary School to sell See’s Candy to raise funds for study trips and teacher supplies.
 9. Cedarwood Elementary School to hold a read-a-thon to raise funds for study trips and classroom supplies.
- D. Accept donations:
1. By Longs Drug Store, for \$500 worth of \$25 Longs gift cards to Ponderosa Elementary School for school supplies or other school needs.
 2. By Target Stores, for \$202.48, to Paradise High School, through the Target Take Charge of Education Program
- E. Approve CARE Grant Application (remove from consent items and placed in action items as action item Q.)
- F. Approve Monthly Personnel Report
New certificated employees: Lauri Chiodini, Frank Nelson, Natalie Oswald, Bobbi Sanders, Jake Wright
New classified employees: Lyn Boman, Patty Darnell, Abbie Knowles, Ammie Miller, Cheri Mueller, Cari Schofield, David Williams, Terry Raczynski
New coaches: Matt Madden
Change in employment status for certificated employees: Gail Kemp, Jori Krulder, Lane Schmidt, Loran Watson, Ashley Walburn, Wendy Marsters, Bob Schofield, Del Hughes
Change in employment status for classified employees: Katherine Crippen, Judy Evans, Deborah Deitrick, Gary Behne, Janel Short, Chuck Mortensen, Carol Barnum, Joyce Smith, Val Barton, Kevin Kelly, Walter Dheming, Cheryl Stultz, William Wilson, Mary Coomes, Danae Domenichini, Dylan Hughes, Nancy Kotar, Selma Lippincott, Becky Nevel, Julie Nunn, Cathy Page, Shanna Shaw, Heather Scott, Maureen Syfert, Jennifer VonStockhausen, Deborah Shafer
Rehired (continuing coaches), temporary: Shelley Knifong
Classified employees who have reached in-district status: Karen Rioto
- G. Approve payroll and vendor claims
 Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to approve consent items as listed, with the exception of item E, which was moved to action item Q for further discussion. Motion carried

14. **ACTION ITEMS:**

- A. A proposed resolution in support of Proposition 8 is presented to the Board of Trustees by the Ridge Ministerial Fellowship. Adopt Resolution #08/09-8 regarding support for Proposition 8. Time for a presentation has been requested.

Pastor Lloyd, with the Ridge Ministerial Fellowship addressed the Board. He gave a presentation on and asked the Board to pass a proposed resolution in support of Proposition 8. He asserted that if Proposition 8 is not passed, it will affect what is in the school textbooks and curriculum. He is the person who gave the resolution as a suggested action to Tim Titus.

Ginny Brown stated that the Board should not be taking a position on this issue. She included that Board members should not be partisan.

Donna McDonald, TAP President, stated that the Board must not take a stand on this issue.

Karen Birchenough spoke to the Board. She stated that there is a moral obligation to protect our children since the passage of this resolution may affect the curriculum. She noted the California Teachers Association donated \$1 million to oppose Prop 8.

Susan Rollins added that she does not want teachers to overstep their boundaries on what they teach to the children.

Barbara Plourd stated that understanding and compassion is needed, and that people should vote with their conscience, and not be strident. She indicated that the Episcopal church accepts gay people.

George Gold indicated that he believes in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. He added that currently gay domestic partners have no rights to social security inheritance under Federal law. Only marriage between a man and a woman is validated and recognized under California laws.

Mike Thompson, speaking as a minister in the community as well as a parent of students in the district, voiced his concerns that the California Ed Code instructs teachers to teach on the topic of marriage. He stated that if Prop 8 passes, it will redefine marriage, and that he is passionate about his right to instruct his children about moral issues.

Gene Hageman stated that Prop 8 this is a moral issue.

Lena Chambers addressed the Board and said that she is saddened to be taking up valuable time, money and resources for something that does not belong in this venue. She feels this kind of support earlier, when so many cuts were made to art, sports, etc. would have been more appropriate.

Amy Kingsley spoke regarding beliefs versus proven facts, and that there is no scientific proof that homosexuality is genetic. Schools cannot teach what one group believes. They should only teach facts.

Dale Deer discussed respect with the Board. He stated that families now come in so many different forms. He said that schools should not advocate only one form of couple marriage, as it would be discriminating.

Sue Borderlon feels the curriculum should be discussed as well as fear that teachers would be teaching about same sex marriage. She quoted two Ed Code citations, and said that the local school districts may choose whether to teach the curriculum or not.

Justin Meyers approached the Board. He stated that this school board has historically stayed away from this type of political decision. He asked if the major catalyst was CTA's political donation. He stated that the Board should have given more than 72 hours notice.

Roger Ekins asked if the CTA's political agenda was full acceptance of homosexuality? He stated that gay marriage is "being shoved down our throats". He wants to see Prop 8 endorsed.

Jim Mullen approached the Board and stated that as an educator for 33 years, this subject has never been brought up in his classroom, and that it is not this Board's place to consider this matter.

Gary Shallenberger stated that the Supreme Court would not require any pastor, etc. to perform marriage between gays.

Lorna Lewis stated that it is not the Board's place to make this resolution.

Curt Landers stated that he agrees with the Superintendent that it is a good thing that we are all here, but we should go about school business, not political business.

Mar Deer indicated that if PUSD supports Prop 8, it would be discriminating against gay and lesbian students and gay and lesbian families.

Linda Singler stated that as a health educator, she is aware of curriculum changes at the college level and is concerned about the curriculum of public schools if Prop 8 is not passed.

Glenn Stankis indicated that he has information about numerous school boards who have made resolutions about this. He read Webster's earliest definition to the Board.

Gwen Nordgren of Paradise Center for Tolerance and Non Violence stated that the organization urges the school Board to take no action, as it is the Board's responsibility to represent all people in this District.

Mike Higginson, CTA representative stated that money donated by CTA was approved by 890 representatives of CTA. He stated that \$30 million has been donated by the Mormon Church of Utah. He felt that the Board President's statement was inflammatory and counterproductive.

An unidentified parent stated that whatever it takes to make our schools strong is what is needed to be done.

Trustee Mike Greer, speaking as a Board member, CTA representative for his District (Yuba City), does not agree with the resolution. He teaches sex education in Yuba City and is concerned he will have to teach new curriculum. Our teachers are here to teach and love each child. He has a bumper sticker that says Vote Yes on 8, and believes it will be for the good of the people. It comes under the jurisdiction of this Board because it affects the curriculum. CTA believes it is an issue of discrimination.

A representative from the Center for Tolerance and Non-violence asked three of the members of the Board of Trustees who are Mormon to recuse themselves because of the large donation made by their church. He said Mike Greer said he is Mormon but votes for what is best for schools.

Board President, Tim Titus spoke about the Education Codes and does not want to lose control of what the students are taught. We all must study this issue carefully. He has been approached on this issue more than any other. He wants to protect our children from changes in curriculum in teaching same sex marriage.

Trustee Mike Greer stated that the Board should support this resolution.

Trustee Donna Nichols stated that she has done her homework and believes California Ed Code (51890.d) and 519337) will change the requirement in curriculum if this proposition is not passed. She is concerned about what happened in Massachusetts and about early education of diversity education. She discussed the language in the amicus curiae briefs. She believes it is not up to the school Board to weigh in on this nor is it her role to tell people how to vote.

Superintendent, Roger Bylund stated that School Boards take and modify resolutions on a regular basis.

Trustee Mike Greer motioned to accept the original resolution as presented.

Board President, Tim Titus stated that he is concerned it does not focus on educational issues. It is too broad, politically.

Trustee Gary Manwill indicated that it was stated that all should educate themselves on this issue. The proposition brings up the concerns of members of the District.

Trustee Greer withdrew his motion.

Mike Higginson asked to bring a point of order.

Superintendent Bylund stated that it is not appropriate for the audience to bring a point of order.

Trustee Manwill stated that he is not comfortable with the resolution as presented in the packet. He is more comfortable with the resolution presented by Donna Nichols, with a few changes. The resolution is important because it will change things depending upon how each person votes.

Mr. Manwill motioned to adopt the resolution as amended, Donna Nichols seconded the motion. Mr. Greer asked for one sentence to be removed that refers to declining enrollment. With that changed agreed upon and included, the motion was carried.

The Board took a brief recess.

- B. Second reading and approval of job description for:
1. Classified Personnel Staff Secretary for Human Resources Department
 2. Administrative Account Technician for the Business Office

Mr. Greer motioned, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve the job descriptions for Classified Personnel Staff Secretary for Human Resources and the Administrative Account Technician for the Business Office. Motion carried.

- C. Authorization for concurrent enrollment of students:
- College Connection students
 - University Connection students
 - Paradise High School students taking a night class
 - Independent Learning Center students

Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to approve the authorization for concurrent enrollment of students for the fall semester. Motion carried.

- E. Approve agreement with Confidential Employees

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve the agreement with the Confidential Employees as presented. Motion carried.

- F. Approve agreement for professional services with Miller/Brown and Dannis

Mrs. Nichols moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve the agreement for professional services with Miller/Brown and Dannis. Motion carried.

- G. Approve Counsel Retention Agreement with Greg Einhorn

Mrs. Nichols moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve Counsel Retention Agreement with Greg Einhorn as presented. Motion carried.

- H. Approve 2008-2009 Designation of CIF Representatives to League

Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to approve Reiner Light and Seth Roberts as the 2008-2009 CIF Representatives. Motion carried

I. Approve GAPP (German American Partnership Program) to Germany

Mrs. Nichols moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve the GAPP trip to Germany. Motion carried.

J. Approve Certificated Credential Waiver for Lauri Chiodini; 4th/5th grade prep teacher

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve a Certificated Credential Waiver for Lauri Chiodini. Motion carried.

K. Approve Provisional Internship Permit for Frank Nelson; 1/5 English teacher at Honey Run Academy

Mr. Manwill moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to approve Provisional Internship Permit for Frank Nelson. Motion carried.

L. Adopt resolution #08/09-7 regarding Economic Uncertainty Reserve Level

Mr. Manwill asked if Mrs. Stutznegger could bring more information to support the resolution. After some discussion, the Board made the decision to table the item.

M. Adopt resolution #08/09-9 to accept a compressed natural gas station (CNG) from Butte County

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to adopt resolution #08/09-9 to accept a compressed natural gas station (CNG) from Butte County. Motion carried.

N. Adopt resolution #08/09-10 regarding Credential Authorization, per Education Code Section 44256(b)

Mr. Greer stated that he has seen many of the same teachers requiring the Board resolutions each year and asked if they are making progress toward getting the appropriate credential. Ed Changus said he would check and report back to the Board.

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to adopt resolution #08/09-10 regarding Credential Authorization. Motion carried.

O. Adopt resolution #08/09-11 regarding Credential Authorization, per Education Code Section 44263

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to adopt resolution #08/09-11 regarding Credential Authorization. Motion carried.

P. Adopt resolution 08/09-12 regarding Credential Authorization, per Education Code Section 44258.2

Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to adopt resolution #08/09-12 regarding Credential Authorization. Motion carried.

Q. Approve CARE Grant Application

Jacky Hoiland presented information regarding the CARE Grant Application. Donna Nichols moved, Mike Greer seconded, to approve the CARE Grant Application. Motion carried.

15. **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Butte County Pooled Investment Portfolio Statement of Condition

Susan Stutznegger reported that Butte County is in good shape with investments. She submitted a statewide alert from Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team regarding the investing and safeguarding of district funds, in order to educate districts.

B. Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report

C. Truancy/Suspension/Expulsion Data Report for 2007/2008

D. First reading of job description - Director of Maintenance and Operations

Ed Changus discussed the job description with the Board and assured them that there is no change to the salary for this position.

E. Report on California's adopted budget

Susan Stutznegger reported that California's budget is not in good shape, and mid-year cuts may be necessary.

F. District Income and Expense Report

Susan Stutznegger reported on the District Income and Expense Report. Mid year cuts are expected.

Mike Greer asked about repairs at the Intermediate School, as well as the mens' bathroom at Paradise High School.

Mrs. Stutznegger reported that there are funds set aside to take care of deferred maintenance items.

16. BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS

17. FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

Mike Greer stated that other Board Members receive around \$850 in PUSD paid health benefits. He does not need these benefits from PUSD as his benefits through Yuba City Unified are superior to the benefit package offered through PUSD. He is asking that in lieu of the \$850 that a substitute be paid when he needs to be absent from his teaching duties to come to PUSD in his role as Board member.

Mr. Bylund stated that he would check Board policies and regulations to see if that can be done.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.