

**Paradise Unified School District
Minutes of September 16, 2008**

- I. 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 6:00 p.m. at the Paradise High School library. Regular meeting
- II. ROLL CALL**
All members were present: Tim Titus, Gary Manwill, Michael Greer, Donna Nichols and Bob DiPietro. All members
- III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**
- V. CLOSED SESSION:** 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
- 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 §35146, §48918 and §72122):
1. Hearing to consider expulsion of students #2201839 and #2202949
- VI. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION** Open session
Open session was reconvened at 6:36 p.m.
- VII. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.
- VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**
- E. Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded to expel student # 2201839 for violation of Education Code §48900(c), and place student on the Independent Study Program. Motion carried. Student #2201839 expelled
- Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded to place student #2202949 on a stipulated suspended expulsion for violation of Education Code §48900(c), and place student at Honey Run Academy. Motion carried. Student #2202949 placed on stipulated suspended expulsion
- During closed session, the Board chose to remove item XIII.E from the consent items, as well as items XIV.B.1 and XIV.B.2. The Board also chose to remove item XV.B from the agenda. Agenda items removed
- IX. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION**
- Dave Hurd, Director of Maintenance was honored for his many years of service to Paradise Unified School District. He will be retiring as of October 1, 2008. Dave Hurd recognized
- Marilyn Martin, and students Jackie Chlosta, Tyler Rockwell, Ashley Rabenhold, Jamie Pickett, Anahy Perales, Lyssa Morgan, Matt Machado, Tabitha Machart-Forcier, Tony Livingston, Michael Jones, Madison Hassel, Makayla Gardner, Marissa Cole, Jessica Pickard, Ashley McGrath, Brianna Greenlw, and Dolly Cary were recognized for their participation in the California 2008 Youth Art Month flag. Marilyn Martin and students recognized for Youth Art Month flag

X. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**A Principal's Reports:**

1. Cedarwood Elementary School
2. Pine Ridge School
3. Ponderosa Elementary School
4. Paradise Elementary School

Elementary Principal's Reports

B. API/AYP Report

API/AYP report

Susan Davis reported on proficiency progress for the District. Her report included the API scores. Mrs. Davis reported that nearly all PUSD schools met the goals for the year. She handed a packet of information to Board members, indicating academic assessments and plans for improvement from each site in the District. She stated that Paradise Intermediate School has been placed in program improvement status this year because of struggles by social economic disadvantaged groups, in the area of math. Extra interventions for students have been provided, and growth is expected. The District will have delineated obligations that need to be met as part of the program for remediation. She stated that about one-third of the districts in the state have at least one program improvement school.

Mr. Titus asked Mrs. Davis to let the staff know how grateful the Board is for their efforts. There is a continued expectation that's not based on reality. He stated that people will criticize California schools for their scores. He also indicated that the numbers are not indicative of the truth, because the standards in California are much higher when compared to other states.

B. Items of information from student representative

No report by student rep

There was no student representative present at the meeting.

C. Carol M. White P.E. Grant

PEP Grand update

Sue Thompson and Kristy Mullen provided a slide show and update indicating the progress with the PEP Grant. They have trained 60 district staff members in sports curriculum, purchased equipment packages for schools, installed climbing walls at Pine Ridge and Paradise Intermediate Schools, raised close to \$1,000 toward juvenile diabetes in walk-to-disease-prevention. She stated that the focus for 08/09 is to get all teachers trained in SPARK. A fall fitness fair will be held as well as the creation of a wellness center, nutrition program, etc. High school students are going to Ponderosa and Paradise Elementary to teach PE to elementary students. More training will be available for teachers this fall. Many activities are being offered to get students excited about "moving". Will partner with SHINE grant to work with families.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Glenn Stankis indicated that the Moose Lodge is selling commemorative badges to honor those who died on September 11, 2001. He commended the Superintendent for meeting with all Board candidates. He presented a memo to the Board, titled "10 Commandment Posters Again Requested for Sixth Grade Classrooms", and read in its entirety.

Vickie Steindorf announced that Creekside 6 program received a \$500 grant through Project Vision. The money will be used to provide plant propagation, species propagation, and environmental education for students.

Glenn Stankis presented a second memo to the Board titled, "New Board and Superintendent Needs to be Strongly Committed to Improving the District's Compliance with the California Requirements for Promoting Patriotism", and read it in its entirety.

Mr. Titus asked Mr. Bylund if he would take care of the flag issues. Mr. Bylund pointed

out that Cedarwood has a flag that flies all night with lights.

XII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Bylund asked the Board to acknowledge the outstanding principals who made presentations this evening. He noted that our children are in good hands.

Superintendent report

Mr. Bylund announced an unfortunate circumstance at Paradise Unified during the past week when the police announced that one of PUSD substitute teachers was arrested in a sting operation. The District was able to make an announcement very quickly through Connect Ed and inform parents of the situation. He stated that support staff was ready to answer any questions, and the calls were minimized. Susan Davis and Mary Ficcardi worked with administrators and psychologists to prepare for any situations that might arise regarding the situation. The District administration is following up to insure that training and reporting protocols are being followed in order to protect students. It was a team effort that included Susan Stutznegger, Susan Davis, Mary Ficcardi and Ed Changus.

Mr. Titus thanked Mr. Bylund and his staff for their efforts, in making everything run as smoothly as possible.

Superintendent Bylund visited Cedarwood Elementary and spoke to one of the teachers who told him what a great program the SPARK PE program was. They have their intervention program set up well and ready to go. At Paradise Elementary classrooms were very inviting and intriguing. Mr. Bylund stated that his visit to Ridgeview was an enlightening experience. The students there were very engaged in instruction and enjoyed a very good social studies lesson. Mr. Bylund also visited Paradise High School. He strongly suggests everyone visit the high school and suggested that all attend open house there to learn more about the Fusion program. He visited the auto shop class and was impressed with their program. In addition to the outstanding administrators, he is delighted in seeing the instruction taking place and commends the outstanding teaching he saw.

He noticed that the gymnasium at Paradise High School needed to be updated. Mr. Bylund attended a football game on Friday, and thoroughly enjoyed it.

XIII. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Approve fundraising request by;

Fundraising requests

1. Paradise Elementary School first grade classes to hold a Math-a-thon on October 16, to provide funds for field trips, and to support first grade curriculum.
2. By Ponderosa Elementary School PEP Club to hold a golf tournament on October 11, 2008, to raise funds for Ponderosa's computer lab and classroom support.
3. Ponderosa Elementary fourth grade classes to hold a read-a-thon, to raise funds for various field trips throughout the year.
4. Paradise Elementary fifth grade teachers to hold a math-a-thon to raise funds for field trips and classroom supplies and equipment.
5. Paradise Elementary fourth grade teachers to hold a spell-a-thon on September 19, 2008 to raise funds for field trips and instructional materials.
6. Paradise Intermediate School E-6 program to hold a rummage sale and car wash on May 2, 2009, to raise funds for their camp trip at the end of the year.
7. Paradise Intermediate School E-6 program to hold a change drive (collect coins in home rooms) from September through October, 2008, to provide funds for campus improvement and field trips.
8. Pine Ridge School's teacher, Mike Gulbransen to hold a spell-a-thon on October 10, 2008, to raise funds for field trips.
9. Paradise High School to hold ESPN magazine sales, to raise funds for

- competitive tournaments, travel expenses, uniforms, etc.
- 10. Ponderosa Elementary school second grade teachers to hold a read-a-thon on September 5, 2008, to raise funds for field trips, art supplies and other classroom needs.
- 11. Paradise Intermediate School Creekside 6 program to hold a car wash on September 20, 2008, for field trip funding, focusing on ecology and watershed restoration.

B. Accept donations: Donations

- 1. By PG&E for \$500, to Paradise Adult School to be used toward textbook purchases.

C. Approve monthly personnel report: Personnel report

New Employees –

Certificated:

Karl Becker, Pat Kelley-Chatham

Classified:

Justin Cox, Marjorie Echols, Helen Jurgenson, John Parks and Sonya Vroman

Changes in Employment –

Certificated:

Kathleen Blacklock, Mirian Craig, Jacky Hoiland, Dena Kapsalis, Amy Keene, Susan Mason, Mike O'Connor, Beth Paterson, Seth Roberts, Sue Thompson, Mary Rose Wallen-Monney, Dorrie Williams

Classified:

Peggy Carmassi, Maritza Donk, Pam Hall, Holly Hassel, Bev Hayes, Pat Kelley-Chatham, Walter Lane, Donna McCann, Kim Reynolds, Julie Nunn, Dana Thompson, Alba Turenne

D. Approve Payroll and Vendor claims for August, 2008 Payroll and vendor claims

E. Item E was removed from the agenda

F. Request for study trip approval: Study trips

- 1. By Laurie Waring and Christine Williams of Ponderosa Elementary School to take their fourth grade classes to Sutter's Fort in Sacramento from March 26 – 27, 2009.
- 2. By Evergreen 6 teachers, Amy Behlke, Greg Holman and Pat Snyder to hold their annual camp trip to Plumas-Eureka State Park from May 26-May 29, 2009.

Dr. DiPietro moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve the consent items as amended. Motion carried.

XIV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Course list for Adult Education

Mr. Greer moved, Dr. DiPietro seconded to approve the course list for adult education. Course list for adult education approved
Motion carried.

- B. Second reading and approval of job descriptions for:
- 1. Administrative Account Technician/Confidential
 - 2. Personnel Technician/Confidential

Item XIV.B was removed from the agenda. No discussion or vote was held.

- C. Public hearing regarding compliance with Education Code §60119 for funds received under the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program Public hearing re:
Instructional Materials
- Susan Davis stated that notices for public hearing were posted prior to the Board meeting for the required period of time. It is an affirmation that the District is providing appropriate textbooks and materials needed.
- Mr. Titus noted that when he was visiting classrooms, textbook materials were still missing. Has this been resolved? Mrs. Davis indicated that it has been resolved.
- Tamra Conry suggested that there are still Algebra Foundations issues at Paradise Intermediate School.
- Mrs. Davis stated that an older algebra book is being used, although it is on the state adoption list. She stated that PUSD is in compliance, using the textbooks that are currently being used.
- D. Resolution #08/09-5 regarding sufficiency of textbooks for the 2008/2009 school year. Resolution 08/09-6 re:
sufficiency of textbooks
- Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve resolution #08/09-5 regarding sufficiency of textbooks for the 2008/2009 school year. Motion carried,
- E. Certification of Provision of Standards Aligned Instructional Materials Cert. of Provision of
Standards Aligned
Instructional Materials
- Mrs. Nichols moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve the Certification of Provision of Standards Aligned Instructional Materials. Motion carried.
- F. Waiver of bilingual tester of English Language Learners Waiver of Bilingual
Tester of English
Language Learners
- This waiver provides that students do not have to be tested in their primary home language.
- Mrs. Nichols moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve the waiver of bilingual tester of English Language Learners. Motion carried,
- G. Resolution #08/09-6 regarding Gann Limit adoption Resolution 08/09-7 re:
Gann Limit
- Mrs. Nichols moved, Dr. DiPietro seconded, to adopt resolution #08/09-9 regarding the Gann Limit. Motion carried.
- H. Adoption of unaudited actuals for 2007/2008. Unaudited Actuals
- Mrs. Stutznegger reviewed the unaudited actual report for the Board. She indicated that 84% of the budget is for salaries. She indicated that the encroachment of Special Education was about 6.3 million dollars, which is about 37% of the budget. Transportation costs were \$550,000. PUSD has purchased two mini buses for Special Education students. It was calculated to spend \$700,000, so PUSD is under budget in that area.
- Mrs. Nichols asked if the salary calculations are comparable to other districts in the surrounding area.
- Mrs. Stutznegger stated that PUSD is at 84%, where Chico is at approximately 90%.

Mr. Titus asked for an update on declining enrollment. Mrs. Stutznegger stated that she had budgeted for minus 200 students, and after first two weeks the total was minus 170 students. This will not change the budget because it had already been based on 07/08 figures. It will impact the year after that, because next year if decline continues the District would look at 170 decline, and that would change the multi-year projection.

Mr. Titus complimented Mrs. Stutznegger and her staff for a great job.

Mr. Manwill moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to adopt the unaudited actuals for 2007/2008. Motion carried.

- I. Recertification of administrative competence in evaluation, per PUSD Regulation #4115.1 Recertification of administrative competence in evaluation

Assistant Superintendent, Ed Changus, indicated that administrators are to be recertified each year, and recommends that the recertification be approved.

Dr. DiPietro moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to approve the recertification of administrative competence in evaluation as presented. Motion carried.

- J. Funding Proposal for a Science/Technology Classroom at Children’s Community Charter School Science/technology classroom at CCCS

Bruce Crist presented a document to the Board regarding a proposal for a portable building addition at Children’s Community Charter School and a possible funding plan. Since they are a dependent charter, CCCS is not able to borrow money to fund the purchase of a much needed science/technology building.

Mrs. Stutznegger stated that she recommends that the money be loaned at 3.75% interest, and indicated that there is money available in the building fund.

Mrs. Nichols moved, Dr. DiPietro seconded, to approve the loan to Children’s Community Charter School for the purpose of purchasing a science/technology building. Motion carried.

- K. Request by Chris Jensen for a leave of absence from his .20 Science position at Paradise High School for the 2008-2009 school year. Leave of absence denied for Chris Jensen

After a brief discussion, and recommendation by Mr. Changus and Mr. Bylund to deny the request, Mr. Greer moved, Mrs. Nichols seconded, to deny the request by Chris Jensen for a leave of absence for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried.

- L. Expand hours of instructional assistant by 1 hour per school day. Instructional assistant day expanded

Mr. Changus explained that for coverage and safety purposes, he recommends that this time be restored.

After some discussion, Mr. Greer moved, Mr. Manwill seconded, to restore the one hour of instructional aide time as presented. Motion carried.

- M. Expand hours of campus supervisor position at Paradise High School by 3.5 hours per day. Instructional assistant day expanded

Mr. Changus explained that this was time that was reduced from the district by the RIF (Reduction in Force) committee. After school opened, and supervision schedules were observed, it became obvious that there was not sufficient supervision of students. This creates a safety issue. Mr. Bylund addressed the Board and indicated that this is a crisis, and while he is reluctant to bring back

something that had been previously cut, he feels this is something that is critical.

Dan LaVerne also stated that the RIF committee looked at this item and realized it is a huge safety issue. The RIF committee agrees that it should be reinstated.

Dr. DiPietro moved, Mr. Greer seconded, to approve the expansion of hours for campus supervision at Paradise High School by 3.5 hours. Motion carried.

XV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. District Income and Expense Report

Income and Expense Report

The District Income and Expense Report was submitted by Mrs. Stutznegger.

Mr. Titus stated that he would appreciate if the District could find a way to save paper in preparing the agenda.

Superintendent Bylund stated that the District has already begun conversations with CSBA as one of the possible vendors, to look into Agenda Online, and to make the agenda more accessible by the public as well as by the Board.

Mr. Bylund stated that this month it took 20 reams of paper, and \$1,000 of staff time involved in just the processing of the agenda itself.

B. Item XV.B was removed from the agenda

C. Review current long term debt borrowings

Long term debt borrowings

As the Board requested, Mrs. Stutznegger presented a schedule reflecting payment dates and also a narrative regarding each borrowing item, and when each will be paid off. There will be leftover monies from prior bond projects to put towards another project. Mr. Titus asked if the District can file for an extension and stay under the amounts that exist.

Mrs. Stutznegger said she would have to look into the matter further.

D. Five year multi-year projection

Five year multi-year projection

As the Board requested, Mrs. Stutznegger presented a projection for unrestricted funds through 2012-2013. Based on the possibility of losing 200 students per year, the District will have to cut nine teachers, and will have to cut infrastructure as well, if decline continues in the next five years. Each year the District will have to evaluate to determine where they stand.

Mr. Manwill stated that the District needs to be proactive in this plan. He cannot imagine making more cuts than have already been made, if the District continues to decline.

Mr. Bylund said the District must determine how to maintain enrollment and maintain schools that will bring people to Paradise, and also be able to determine what a 3,000 student district looks like. As individuals retire, vacated positions may not be filled. As the District reduces in size, it may be necessary to make reductions in maintenance, operations, teaching, as well as in central office staff. If we can look at what it will be, we can plan what steps need to be made in order to get there.

Mr. Titus suggested that another source of revenue is needed, as the state cannot

be depended upon to fund education appropriately in our community. We need to do what's right for our students, and we need to plead our case before the voters that a revenue bond is necessary. He asked about the facilities plan that is being developed, and whether or not a demographic study is included.

Mr. Bylund stated that yes, it does include a demographic study, as well as a study for declining enrollment, facilities needs, and facilities for programs that will attract families and students.

Mr. Manwill indicated that Paradise is isolated, and he feels that students are moving out of the area, and feels a lot of time should not be put into a demographic study.

Mr. Greer stated that PUSD needs to look at how many students live here, yet send their students to Chico because they work there. He suggested that PUSD provides a means to attract more students to Paradise schools.

Mr. Titus stated that PUSD does not have an inferior product, but that declining enrollment is forcing change upon us, and we must look ahead to determine what must be changed to provide a gradual process of recreating education. There are a lot of good examples around the country. He suggested a medical academy and a forensics academy to create great interest. He stated that if we have what people want, they will find a way to get the students to our schools. He stated that the community is very interested in education, and PUSD needs to lay out the vision of where the District wants to go; where the District wants its leaders of tomorrow to be.

Mr. Manwill said that people take their students to school in Chico mostly for convenience reasons, as many parents work in Chico.

Mr. Titus used Creekside 6 as an example in creating great programs. He would like to see more of that type of opportunity.

Carol Kirk, teacher at Paradise High School approached the Board and indicated that at a department meeting it was suggested that it is important to find programs that would include enough students to make a difference. She asked if the District can make small learning communities broad enough to include a larger field leading toward a set of professions, i.e. health care/social services.

Mr. Lerch stated that it is necessary to make small steps, and it is important to keep the areas somewhat broad.

Mr. Titus stated that it is important to talk to the voters and to develop a vision.

Justin Meyers approached the Board. He stated that he attended a small high school that was very specialized. One option is to look at what other high schools in California are doing to move toward that specialization and to try to identify people who are going into technical schools, etc. He suggested that PUSD needs more focus on identifying what programs students are going into, and look at where our student's interest already lie.

E. Review draft of new cell phone policy

Cell phone policy review

Susan Stutznegger introduced the draft of the new cell phone policy. The new IRS regulations states that if a cell phone is provided, that any personal use of the phone is to be added to their W-2 form. Many of the cell phones in the District don't work, and many of those who have one do not care to have one. It needs to be determined who needs a cell phone. The new policy states that if an employee has a cell phone assigned, he/she will need to sign a contract that states the employee has

read the policy.

Dan Laverne stated that his cell phone must be charged every night. He feels a maintenance agreement should be included in the policy. Many of the phones are not in use because they must be charged too frequently.

F. GASB 45 Valuation

GASB 45 valuation

GASB 45 is a required actuarial valuation of the District's retiree health insurance program. The District will have decisions in the future about funding and recognizing this liability. Susan Stutznegger stated that there is a huge liability for the retiree benefits for Paradise Unified School District. Trust funds are encouraged. GASB 45 is required by all federal agencies.

XVI. BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS

XVII. FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.