

COAST UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, December 15, 2009
PLACE: Old Grammar School, 1350 Main Street, Cambria, CA 93428
TIME: 6:00 p.m. Closed Session in Superintendent's Office
7:00 p.m. Open Session in Designated Board Room

CALL TO ORDER/OPEN SESSION

- 1.1 Roll Call
- | <u>Members Present</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Dianne Brooke | None |
| Del Clegg | |
| Victoria Dandurand | |
| Cindy Fratto | |
| Robert Gong | |

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments made by the public during the Public Hearing on Closed Session agenda items.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiators regarding Certificated and/or Classified Bargaining Units (Government Code Section 54957.6)
- 3.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(b): Two Cases
- 3.3 Consider Public Employee Discipline/Resignation/Release - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, Public Employment

RESUME TO OPEN SESSION

- 4.1 The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
- 4.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Santa Lucia Middle School Student, Courtney Castle.
- 4.3 Board President, Robert Gong, announced Closed Session Items. No action was taken in Closed Session.
- 4.4 The agenda was approved as presented. (Brooke/Clegg, 5-0)

HEARING SESSION

Brent Hopkins, parent, shared that he wanted clarification on the drug policy (CUHS extracurricular code) that was approved and he did not approve of the police type actions by the administration that seem to be incorporated into this policy.

Stephanie Arehart, parent, shared information about the pictures that were posted on a student's Face book account. She would also like students and parents to receive clarification regarding the new drug policy and make it clear to students what the time line is to leave a party when students realize there is drug activity taking place. She said that students/parents do not really know what the parameters are in this new policy.

Monie Hopkins, parent, read a report with statistics regarding school drug policies and the controversies that are connected with such policies. She also commented on the 15-minute rule in the CUHS extracurricular code and questioned how our school personnel are getting their information on students who are caught using illegal drugs.

Joe Sassaman, parent and teacher, stated that students and parents have never read or received a copy of the new extracurricular code and therefore do not know what is actually stated in the new policy. He feels that school personnel over stepped their boundaries in obtaining pictures off a student's Face book account. He stated trust issues are at an all-time low - students do not know who to trust. He feels the school board has a poorly drafted drug policy. He strongly recommends that the School Board redirect the administration to find a more manageable, reliable and effective drug policy.

Steve Cole, community member, said he supports drug and alcohol testing and said he felt the district is acting appropriately in regard to the extracurricular code.

Cindy Sassaman, parent, said she feels innocent students are being punished under this new drug and alcohol policy. She feels if a student says "no" to drugs and did not partake in the drug or alcohol but stays around the party (or cannot get away) the student is not rewarded for "saying no." Innocent students will still pay a consequence by the school district if they are caught at a party where illegal drug activity occurs. She said the trust is gone and this shows by the low participation in sports, drama, ASB, and the lack of school spirit this year.

Hayley Barnes, CUHS student, said she respects the fact that the administration is trying to keep students off of drugs and alcohol but she also feels the districts job is to educate students and that is it. She does not want to be punished for saying no to drugs nor does she want to be punished for other students' actions when they choose to participate in illegal drug activity at a party or an after school/weekend get-together.

Jeff Smith, parent and athletic coach, stated that he has concerns about having to be an interrogator as a coach. He said right now he has the students' ear, but when students realize he now must become an interrogator he will lose their ear and confidence. He said, "We are becoming police not educators." This past incident with students has certainly set up an element of "us" verses "them."

Harper Sassaman, CUHS student, says that school spirit is very low this year. She said students are boycotting school events and that they do not support the school anymore. Students no longer have a desire to attend school activities because students no longer trust the administration. It is like it is the "teachers" against the "students."

Superintendent Adams said the extracurricular code policy that has been in effect for many years has always stated it is in affect 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. What is different this year is that the code is being enforced and there is accountability. The 20 minute rule allows students an opportunity to make a decision to leave a party or event where illegal activities are taking place. There has to be accountability at some level and extracurricular activities are above and beyond. You can hold kids to a higher standard. Participation in an extracurricular event does not affect student's academic grades. To do so, is against the law. When a parent brings pictures into the district superintendent of a student smoking pot, he must deal with the issue. There always has to be an investigation. He commented when the investigation that took place last week was completed, the three students that were with a student who was smoking pot, but chose to not partake in drug activity, were not punished by the school district.

Board President, Rob Gong, asked the board if they wanted to revisit the extracurricular code issue at another board meeting.

Board member, Victoria Dandurand stated that she would like to read it over again and have a discussion on what parents are having issues with.

Board member, Del Clegg stated we have new technology "Face book" and the consequences of

what happens when something is posted on Face book is now being experienced everywhere. When students choose to place photos on Face book/the internet it becomes available for anyone to gain access to.

Board member, Dianne Brooke said there were some things that she would like to check out personally, she has some ideas, and possibly would like to review the extracurricular code again sometime in the future.

Superintendent Adams said we needed to give the policy some time. Counseling classes will be starting and we need to give these classes time to play out to see the outcome of the new counseling/parenting classes.

It was decided that the extracurricular code will be placed on the March agenda for discussion. The Board will review the progress of classes that are taking place due to the enforcement of the code. At that time we can make a determination if we need to make changes to the code and determine if the program is progressing as we thought it would.

It was explained by Superintendent Adams that some verbiage was changed in the extracurricular code. However, the biggest change is that the code is now being enforced where it had not been in years past.

Karl Dearie, CU Principal explained that the extracurricular code would be mailed home to parents/students in the December newsletter.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

- 6.1 Election of Board President: Dianne Brooke nominated Rob Gong to continue as Board President. Cindy Fratto seconded the motion. Rob accepted the position. (Brooke/Fratto, 5-0)
- 6.2 Election of Board Clerk: Rob Gong nominated Dianne Brooke to continue as Board Clerk. Del Clegg seconded the motion. Dianne accepted the position. (Gong/Clegg, 5-0)
- 6.3 Dianne Brooke nominated Victoria Dandurand as the Representative for Annual Governing Boards Representatives Meeting and Liaison Representative to the San Luis Obispo County School Boards Association. Del Clegg seconded the motion. Victoria accepted the position. (Brooke/Clegg, 5-0)
- 6.4 Designation of Superintendent as Secretary to the Board and authorized District Representative: Dianne Brooke designated Chris Adams, Superintendent, as the Secretary to the Board and Authorized District Representative. Cindy Fratto seconded the motion. (Brooke/Fratto, 5-0)
- 6.5 The Board approved and confirmed that the date, time, and place of Regular meetings will be the second Thursday of each month, at 7:00 p.m., (Open Session), at the Coast Unified School District Office, 1350 Main Street, Cambria. (Brooke/Fratto, 5-0)
- 6.6 Election of Representative and alternate to the Santa Lucia ROP Board: Cindy Fratto agreed to continue to serve the second year of her 2-year term as the Representative to the Santa Lucia ROP Board. Del Clegg has agreed to continue as the alternate. (Brooke/Dandurand, 5-0)

CONSENT AGENDA

Board President, Rob Gong, acknowledged the donations. The Consent Agenda, consisting of the following items, was approved as presented (Brooke/Fratto, 5-0):

- 7.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 12, 2009
- 7.2 Approval of Warrants: Batch Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26
- 7.3 Acceptance of Cash Report as of November 30, 2009
- 7.4 Acceptance of Enrollment Report as of November 30, 2009
- 7.5 Approval of Interdistrict Transfer Requests for 2009-10
- 7.6 Approval of Consultant Contracts for 2009-10 & 2010-11, *available for review in Supt's office:*
 - Denise Winslow – Nursing services for 2010-11
 - Moises Jimenez – Provide services for Spanish instruction to administrators
7/1/10 - 9/30/10
- 7.7 Approval of mileage reimbursement rate of 50¢ per mile, effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010
- 7.8 Approval of Field Trip Request for Coast Union CSF Students, destination Northern California Colleges and Universities Tour, on February 24-26, 2010
- 7.9 Approval of Field Trip Request for Santa Lucia Choir students, destination Monterey and Pacific Grove, on February 4-6, 2010
- 7.10 Approval of Field Trip Request for Cambria Grammar School 5th graders, destination Yosemite National Park, on May 3-7, 2010
- 7.11 Donations:
 - One week of self-defense lessons (value: \$375.00) to Santa Lucia sixth, seventh and eighth grade students, from Bryan Way, American Karate School, Atascadero, CA
 - Field Guide to Insects (value: \$20.00) to Coast Union High School Library, from Steve Kobara, San Luis Obispo, CA

PRESENTATIONS

- 8.1 The Santa Lucia Middle School Choir did not perform.
- 8.2 Barb Beane and Bonnie Hall, Toastmasters' Representatives shared information about a program to get students involved in Toastmasters. Toastmasters is a program that helps a person gain skills in public speaking. The Toastmasters Club would like to tie a scholarship award to the student who excels in the speech program. Superintendent Adams will check with teachers to see if there would be interest in this program.
- 8.3 Ginger Channell, Support Services Director, shared a PowerPoint presentation that dealt with various training scenarios of emergencies relating to the transportation of students. CUSD school bus drivers attended this beneficial training workshop.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- 9.1 Principal's Reports:

John Calandro, Santa Lucia Principal, reported that Mark Kniffen was nominated as Educator of the Year by his peers and was honored at a dinner put on by the California League of Middle Schools in Woodland Hills, CA, on December 2, 2009. There, he was selected as the Region 8 Teacher of the Year and will compete at State Level in an event in Sacramento. He is one of 10 teachers to compete for this honor.

Karl Dearie, Coast Union Principal, shared that Jacqueline Durazo, student, was accepted at Georgetown University. Georgetown only accepts 19% of their qualified applicants.

9.2 Governing Board/Superintendent

A. Governing Board:

- The Board reviewed the Governance Calendar for December/January
- The Board nominated Mark Buchman, from San Luis Coastal School District Board for the CSBA Delegate Assembly.

B. Superintendent Adams reported on the following:

- September 29 visit to see the Arroyo Grande School District swimming pool
- Plans to partnership with an architectural firm for Pool and TOGS project. Chris will interview 3 firms and bring back to the Board for a final selection. There may be funding available for the TOGS project.
- Safety Report – On the Safe Side
- Rosetta Stone Program

9.3 The Board approved Resolution 09/10-8 naming the courts at the high school “The Ed Simonsen Tennis Courts.” All work will be done by the Tennis Club. The district will incur no cost. (Brooke/Dandurand, 5-0)

9.4 Superintendent Adams made a recommendation to the Board that no alcoholic beverages be served on the Old Grammar School campus for TOGS events. This was the advice given after speaking to our legal counsel. The Board accepted the Superintendent’s recommendation.

9.5 Cindy Fratto reported on the November 18, 2009 Board Meeting that was held at Shandon School District.

9.6 The Board approved the request to give ASB classes Vocational Education course credit. (Dandurand/Fratto, 5-0)

9.7 Board President, Rob Gong, opened the public hearings for CCTA and CSEA.

Joe Sassaman, CTA Rep, said that the CCTA Bargaining Unit was asking for the following:

- 0% increase for teacher salaries
- The opportunity to reopen negotiations on May 1, 2009 to review the impact of the state budget
- Clean up wording of CTA Contract – bring wording up to date (stipends and personal necessity)

CSEA Bargaining Unit is asking for the following:

- 2% increase in salary schedule across the board
- Reclassify Instructional aides from Range 5 to Range 7
- No change to district contribution to Health and Welfare Benefits, but a request for an additional contribution for employees in 2-party/family categories.

Superintendent Adams shared that the administration reviewed the District’s core values. The District is concerned with falling property taxes; the fact that the C.P.I. has fallen to a negative for the first time in 20 years, because of this and due to Prop 8, the state must now reassess all real properties. The fair share cuts to Basic Aid Districts and mid-year state budget cuts makes our school budget very unpredictable.

Superintendent Adams did a comparative analysis with other districts in our county. CUSD teacher salaries are number one in the county and our welfare benefits are rated at number 2. We feel the district has compensated our teachers well.

Coast Unified School District's offer to CCTA:

- 0% increase in salaries
- 0% increase in Health and Welfare benefits
- \$5,000 stipend for any certificated employee that submits a resignation by February 1, 2010

Coast Unified School District's offer to CSEA:

- 0% increase in salaries
- 0% increase in Health and Welfare benefits
- We agree we want to apply some of the savings to the tiered benefit package to the 2-party/ family subscribers.
- Leffingwell Secretary-Registrar/Computer Tech – this employee is working more hours as a Computer Tech and the district will compensate her for her duties.

There were no comments from the Board or public and the hearing sessions for CCTA and CSEA Bargaining Units were closed.

ACTION SESSION

10.1 Personnel:

A. The Board approved the Personnel Agenda as presented. (Brooke/Clegg, 5-0)

10.2 Business Services

A. The Board approved the Parent Connection-North Coast Grant (Brooke/Fratto, 5-0)


B. Sharon Henslin, Business Manager, shared information on the ending fund balance on the First Interim Report for 2009-10, as of October 31, 2009. The Board reviewed and accepted the report. (Fratto/Brooke, 5-0)

C. The Board approved the Allied Arts Contract, with changed wording per discussion at Board meeting, for continued use of the Old Grammar School Facility for 2009-10. (Clegg/Brooke, 5-0)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on January 14, 2010, Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dianne E. Brooke, Clerk, Board of Trustees
Coast Unified School District

Date: January 14, 2010