

**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Fresno Unified School District
MAY 9, 2008**

**Fresno, California
May 9, 2008**

Office of the Board of Education, Fresno Unified School District, Nutrition Center, 4480 N. Brawley, Fresno, CA 93722.

Special Meeting

At a special meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held at the Nutrition Center on May 9, 2008, there were present Members Asadoorian, Davis, Johnson, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, and President Vang. Also present was Interim Superintendent Quinto. *Superintendent Hanson was absent.*

President Vang convened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. at the Fresno Unified School District's Nutrition Center with consultants Sarah Glover from the Center for Reform of Schools Systems and Dan Walden and Christopher Maricle from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Staff Present

Executive Director Harris and Chief Information Officer Turnbull.

At the site visit with Consultants Sarah Glover, Dan Walden and Christopher Maricle, the Board of Education discussed the following:

- Overview
 - The Fresno Unified School District Board of Education expressed interest in the development of a board compact to strengthen the board's capacity for leading long-term and sustainable improvements in Fresno Unified School District.
- Board Compact (Protocol)
 - The Board accomplished several tasks:
 - Briefly reviewed CSBA's governance system
 1. The five primary responsibilities in governing the district
 2. The four essential conditions of effective boards
 3. The four characteristics of effective trustees

Comments were made by Members Asadoorian, Davis, Johnson, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, President Vang, and Interim Superintendent Quinto.

- Agreed on decision-making process for developing the compact
 - Discussed the process for making decisions for completing the compact. The board agreed that consensus was desirable, but if full consensus could not be reached, the board would use the vote to make decisions and move the process forward.

President Vang recessed for a BREAK at 9:25 a.m. and RECONVENED at 9:40 a.m.

- Agreed on a basic structure for the compact.
 - The board reviewed several sample compacts from three other districts. The board identified some simple structural principles for the compact, based primarily on the sample from the School Board from Virginia Beach.
 - In order to make this process and its results meaningful and practically useful, the board's compact should be:
 1. A written agreement
 2. Adopted as a resolution at a regular board meeting
 3. Reviewed at the beginning of every board meeting
 4. Part of the criteria for the board's annual self-evaluation as well as for evaluating meeting effectiveness

President Vang recessed for a LUNCH at 11:25 a.m. and RECONVENED at 11:40 a.m.

- Identified key topics/concerns to be addressed by the compact
- Developed four board protocols to address board operations

Member Johnson departed the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

- Connection to Core Beliefs
 - The consultant proposed that board's compact align with the very powerful board-adopted Core Beliefs and Commitments. The board agreed that three core beliefs and commitments were especially relevant for the board.
- Next Steps
 - The board demonstrated a high capacity for reaching agreements with issues in a productive fashion, and the consultant encouraged the board to continue the work they have begun.

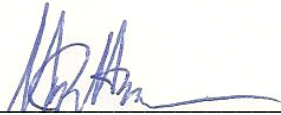
Comments were made by Members Asadoorian, Davis, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, President Vang, and Interim Superintendent Quinto.

Unscheduled Oral Communication

There were no speakers.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

With no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, President Vang declared the meeting adjourned 1:25 p.m.



MICHAEL E. HANSON, Secretary to the
Board of Education