

**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Fresno Unified School District
MARCH 26, 2008**

**Fresno, California
March 26, 2008**

Office of the Board of Education, Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, California, 93721.

Regular Meeting

At a regular meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on March 26, 2008, there were present Members Asadoorian, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, and Acting Board President Davis. *President Vang and Superintendent Hanson were absent.*

Acting Board President Davis convened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. in the Board Room for the purpose of the Board Workshop on Human Resources/Labor Relations. *Member Johnson arrived at 2:10 p.m.*

Associate Superintendent Mecum and staff presented the Human Resources/Labor Relations (HR/LR) workshop and informed the Board and the public about the strategic actions underway in the Human Resources/Labor Relations Department on the topics listed below:

1. The Human Resources/Labor Relations Department organization and responsibilities.
2. Human Resources/Labor Relations Department support of the Board's Core Beliefs and Commitments.
3. Human Resources/Labor Relations Theory of Action and supporting strategic priorities.
4. Commitments and objectives in the four key areas of recruitment, selection, retention and operational efficiency.

Member Ryan thanked staff for the presentation and questioned the RGI partnership and the role.

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they initiated a conversation with County Office of Education, City of Fresno and the County of Fresno to increase student achievement but to decrease the poverty level in the valley and how Fresno Unified can provide employment opportunities, career ladders and professional learning. A number of organizations will be meeting on April 3rd to collaborate together to decrease the poverty and to assist Fresno Unified in filling vacancies with qualified people.

Member Ryan questioned if the RGI clusters are creating jobs and are they providing students with the skills that they need to go into those jobs?

Board Workshop on Human Resources/Labor Relations – continued

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that in career ready they are looking full circle in all of their program designs not just targeting one area but working with Universities, looking at RGI and how our students can become career ready and how they link to each other to fill employment opportunities.

Member Ryan questioned, with the inevitable effect of the baby boomers retiring, is the district looking at keeping people in the workforce by offering part-time and sharing classrooms with teachers?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they do offer job sharing and will continue to explore that in a much deeper level than they are currently doing.

Member Ryan expressed concerns with the evaluation process and how that is going to be resolved.

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that in classified they are looking into timeliness, quality and the accountability of doing them. They are also looking at the problem of principals turning them in while trying to close the school year.

Member Ryan questioned the targeting date for the exit interviews?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that's one of the initiatives for 2008/09, they are also working with the accountability office to see where the gaps are.

Member Ryan questioned the recruitment of people who are in another career and are coming into teaching as a second career, how are they targeting them?

Administrator Quintana stated that they are surveying Teaching Fellows and Paraprofessionals from Fresno State; they also have an MOU with Troops to Teachers, and want to work with Retired Police and Fireman as second careers.

Member Mills questioned the retention to all employees or teachers and how many employees in the district.

Executive Director Zieba stated that there are currently over 11,000 employees in the District.

Member Mills questioned the Class Comp Study and what is the timeline?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they have just finished food service and will be able to share the job and compensation changes with SEIU within 3 weeks.

Member Davis questioned how are credentials flagged?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated their software screening process will automatically screen out unqualified individuals; they also go through their own screening process.

Board Workshop on Human Resources/Labor Relations – continued

Member Davis questioned the exit interviews?

Administrator DeRousi stated that it reflects why they're leaving, and what they can do in professional development, career ladders and professional training.

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they want to not only take exit reviews from people that are retiring but those who are leaving for other reasons.

Member Johnson questioned qualified and talented individuals, is the district looking at employees working with all demographics?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they are in full agreement.

Member Asadoorian questioned the interview process and is there a point when staff informs certain individuals who continue to apply that they don't fit?

Administrator Quintana stated that they have had those conversations with those individuals on why they haven't made it forward. They feel they are better equipped now that they have the talent assessment online. Those individuals that take the assessment will meet with Human Resources and will walk them through the process and present them with opportunities to work for Fresno Unified.

Member Asadoorian questioned the needs for the first year teacher?

Associate Superintendent Mecum stated that they are just now opening conversation about what they can do with those first year teachers and what they can do to retain and support them.

Member Asadoorian questioned what are the kinds of questions asked through the second level interview process?

Administrator Mazzone stated in the interview practicum questions it may give a scenario or time to reflect when the candidate had a challenge or a difficult decision to make and its outcome, they are looking at deeper questions to get a deeper understanding of the candidate in their leadership potential and abilities.

Member Nunez stated that he noticed that the staff in Human Resources are all females and would like to see more hiring on where they are deficient and are they having interviews teams that are subjective as possible when looking at candidates or are there certain biases that are coming up that should be excluded. There are rumors that the process is flawed. Also in hiring teachers maybe they should look at internships so that they can look at the student teachers in action. They also need to place them early so that they don't lose them to other districts.

CFO Quinto stated that they actively pursue to hire minorities to have representatives at our school sites that reflect to our own students' races and culture.

Board Workshop on Human Resources/Labor Relations – continued

Member Ryan complemented the staff on their slide 15 and the message it displays and would like it used in the communications department.

Member Johnson stated the earlier they do the recruitment for African Americans and Hispanic candidates the better pool they will have to hire, they need to look at other places besides Fresno to recruit candidates.

Acting Board President Davis RECESSED for a BREAK at 3:55 p.m. and adjourned at 4 p.m. to Closed Session to address items 1 through 6.

Staff Present

CFO Quinto, Associate Superintendents Hauser, Marinovich, Mecum, and Persaud, CTO Madden, CIO Turnbull, Assistant Superintendents Bengel, Coronado, Franks, Locker, Jones, and Smits. *Associate Superintendent Tucker was absent.*

President Vang and Superintendent Hanson arrived at 5:30 p.m. and Student Member Curry was absent.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

1. By a vote of 6-0-1, *with President Vang absent*, the Board took action in Closed Session to appoint Stephen Morris to Principal III at Carver Middle School.
2. By a vote of 6-0-1, *with President Vang absent*, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Elizabeth Nixon to School Psychologist at Special Education.
3. By a vote of 6-0-1, *with President Vang absent*, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Lisa Winter to School Psychologist at Special Education.
4. By a vote of 6-0-1, *with President Vang absent*, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Shannon Langlo to School Psychologist at Special Education.
5. By a vote of 6-0-1, *with President Vang absent*, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Julie Montali to School Psychologist at Special Education.
6. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Chris Evans to Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Support Services.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rowell Elementary parent, Sandra Zucilla led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Zucilla is a star parent and a valuable member of the Rowell family. Mrs. Zucilla in the past was a volunteer for Preschool, and at the present time she is a substitute aide and is also a Noon Time Assistant.

Student Member Vasquez arrived at 5:50 p.m.

Reports from Student Board Representatives

Student Representative Sanjeev Joshi reported an update from the Student Board Representative meeting hosted at Edison High School with Members Asadoorian, Davis and Ryan present.

President Vang reported the following:

- **California's Mayor Educational Roundtable**

Attended the California's Mayor Educational Roundtable in Sacramento with Superintendent Hanson. The main issue was how are educational and community leaders going to address the dropout issue.

Superintendent Hanson reported the following:

- **Manchester GATE and Computech Middle School Received 2007 Title I Academic Achievement Award for 2007-08**

He is pleased to announce that Manchester GATE and Computech Middle School received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for 2007-08. The schools will be honored by the California Department of Education at the State Title I Conference in LA.

- **Fresno Adult School Joins El Concilio de Fresno to Host Celebration of Cesar Chavez this Friday**

He is pleased to report that this Friday, the Fresno Adult School and El Concilio de Fresno will host a commemoration event to celebrate the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez from 9 a.m. to noon at the William Saroyan Theater. This is a perfect teachable moment, giving our students an opportunity to learn about Chavez' steadfast struggle to advocate for equality, justice, and dignity. This is just one more example of our community working with our schools to support student learning.

- **FUSD Continues Partnership with The College Place to Provide College-going Information to FUSD Students and Families**

A series of college-going workshops are being held this month and in April at The College Place in Manchester Mall. These workshops have been shared with our students, as well as our employees to help them and their children explore college options and financial aid. The next workshop is Monday, March 31 from 4 to 7 p.m. – students and families will learn about creating a college-going plan, finding a college or vocational school, career information, and financial aid. This partnership is another shining example of how they can leverage resources to better serve our students and families.

- **FUSD Students Join ArtHop Circuit**

He is very pleased to report that McLane High School students will showcase their art at City Hall on Thursday, April 3 as a stop on the ArtHop circuit. The artists will share their portraits of Famous Fresnans. In addition, the Fresno Adult School will host an ArtHop event that evening from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Cesar E. Chavez Education Center. Featured artist is George Ballis, presenting his compelling photographs documenting the years of Cesar Chavez in the San Joaquin Valley and the forming of the United Farm Workers Union. Student work depicting the life of Cesar Chavez and his influence will also be on display.

- **FUSD Ranked in Top 50 School Districts in Nation for Safest Internet Usage for Students**

Received word that Fresno Unified has been ranked in the top 50 school districts in the nation for keeping students safest when searching on the Internet. The distinction was made by netTrekker d.i. Safe Search Awards Program to recognize outstanding usage for the 2006-07 school year. Congratulations to Technology Services for their continued hard work in this area.

On motion by Member Nunez, seconded by Member Johnson the Consent Agenda, exclusive of Agenda Items: A-10, A-13, A-14, A-15, A-16, A-17, and A-18, approved on a roll call vote of 8-0-1 as follows: Student Member Vasquez, Members Asadoorian, Davis, Johnson, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, and President Vang. *Student Member Curry was absent.*

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, Personnel List

APPROVED, as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.

A-2, Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board

ADOPTED, as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the March 12, 2008, Regular Board Meeting.

A-3, Waiver Requests for a Group of Special Education and 504 Students for the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)

APPROVED, as recommended, the group of waiver requests from District administration on the certification for accommodations/modifications for Special Education and 504 students for the California High School Exit Exam as per Board Policy 6162.52.

A-4, Resolution HR-01-2008 in the Matter of Reduction and/or Elimination of Classified Services for the 2008/09 School Year

ADOPTED, as recommended, Resolution HR-01-2208 for Food Services to authorize the reduction and/or elimination of services in several classifications in the Classified Services. It was agreed to have cafeteria start at a 12-month duty year for 2007/08 and revert the employee to a traditional calendar for the 2007/08 school year. These positions are funded through categorical monies (Food Services) and would not result in any savings to the General Fund.

A-5, Resolution on the Governor's Proposed 2008-09 Budget

ADOPTED, as recommended, Resolution on the Governor's proposed 2008-09 budget outlining the impact Fresno Unified will face due to the governor's proposed \$4.4 billion budget cut to education funding. The resolution calls upon the governor and the Legislature to uphold Proposition 98, the minimum school funding guarantee, and reject the draconian proposed cuts to schools and students. While it is clear there are extraordinary challenges in balancing the state's budget, the Fresno Unified School District Board of Education strongly opposes the governor's 2008-09 budget proposal and his plans to suspend the Proposition 98 minimum funding guarantee for education. There is no fiscal impact to the district.

A-6, Two Agreements for Facility Usage for Fresno Adult School

APPROVED, as recommended, two agreements for use of facilities with Fresno County Equal Opportunity Commission Local Conservation Corps and Mental Health Systems, Inc., Female Offender Treatment Employment Program (FOTEP) Region I. The facilities will be used to offer adults instruction in preparation for General Education Development (GED), Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, Career Technical Education, and other adult education classes. Both contracts will begin March 27, 2008 and end on June 30, 2011. There is no cost to the District.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-7, Annual Renewal Agreement for the Apprenticeship Related and Supplemental Instruction Hours for Fiscal Year 2007/2008 with the California Department of Education

RATIFIED, as recommended, the Renewal Agreement for the Apprenticeship Related and Supplemental Instruction Hours for fiscal year 2007/08 with the California Department of Education for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The allocation is not to exceed 143,725 hours for the Electrical Apprenticeship Training Program, Residential Training Program, Sound and Communication Joint Apprenticeship Training Program, and the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship. Since 1988 the Fresno Unified School District has acted as the Local Education Agency (LEA) for these agencies. Total allotment hours of 143,725 at \$5.06 per hour of training equates to a not to exceed amount of \$727,248.50. Funding will be handled through the Career Technical Education Department budget (048).

A-8, Renewal Independent Contractor Services Agreement with California State University, Fresno Bonner Center for the Partnership in Character Education Program

RATIFIED, as recommended, the renewal Independent Contractor Services Agreement with California State University, Fresno Bonner Center for the Character Education Program. The Bonner Center will provide professional development in the area of Character Education to eight sites, (Ewing, Vinland, Figarden, Centennial, Ericson, Kratt, Turner and Thomas). In addition, the Bonner Center will collaborate with REA and WestEd on evaluation. This contract represents the fourth year of a four-year partnership. The renewal contract will commence upon Board approval and end June 30, 2008. Funding will be provided through the allotment of year-four of the Character Education Grant in the amount of \$115,786.

A-9, Renewal Independent Contractor Services Agreement with WestEd for the Partnership in Character Education Grant

RATIFIED, as recommended, the renewal Independent Contractor Services Agreement with WestEd to provide evaluation for the Character Education grant. This agreement represents the fourth year of the grant partnership. WestEd will continue to work with REA and the Bonner Center to provide evaluation tools and analysis for the Partnership in Character Education program. WestEd will complete the final report in the 2008-2009 school year. The renewal contract will commence upon Board approval and will end June 30, 2009. Funding will be provided through the allotment of year three and year four of the Character Education Grant in the total amount of \$90,452.

A-10, Contract with The Red Schoolhouse for Formative Assessment and School-Based Scanning/Reporting System

PULLED for discussion.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-11, Amendment Contract with Comprehensive Youth Services for Greenberg and Addams Elementary Schools

APPROVED, as recommended, an amendment to a Contract with the Comprehensive Youth Services to provide additional services for students and families at Greenberg and Addams Elementary Schools. All services are outlined as in the original June 27, 2007 agreement with the exception of the additional months of services listed. The contract will commence upon Board approval and end June 30, 2008. Funding will be provided from site Categorical funding as follows: Greenberg (\$9,001) and Addams (\$23,464).

A-12, Independent Contractor Services Agreement with TRK Playground Safety, LLC

APPROVED, as recommended, an Independent Contractor Services Agreement with TRK Playground Safety, LLC to provide mandated inspections of all playgrounds by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) to identify hazardous play equipment and grounds. The inspection also facilitates elimination of serious hazards and the creation of a maintenance program. This contract covers a District wide audit of all playground equipment currently on District sites. The contract will commence upon Board approval and will end June 30, 2008. Sufficient funds have been budgeted for and are available in the Routine Restricted Maintenance Fund (50%) and the Risk Management Fund (50%) for a total cost of \$75,000. Anticipated expenditures will be from fiscal year 2008.

A-13, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Character Education Program (PCEP)

PULLED for discussion.

A-14, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP)

PULLED for discussion.

A-15, Submission of a Grant Application to the Sprint Foundation for the Sprint Ahead for Education Program

PULLED for discussion.

A-16, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) Program

PULLED for discussion.

A-17, Submission of a Grant Application to the California Department of Education for Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Competitive Program

PULLED for discussion.

A-18, Submission of an Application to the Fresno Council of Government for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program-Cycle and a Resolution Supporting Project Completion Dates and Timely Use of Funding

PULLED for discussion.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-19, General Waiver Request for Increased Use of Block Entitlement for Fresno Adult School
 APPROVED, as recommended, the General Waiver Request to allow Fresno Adult School to increase their usage amount of Block Entitlement for Innovative Techniques and nontraditional instructional methods from the currently approved 5% to 7%. This request is due to an increase in enrollment in the Fresno Adult School's Distance Learning Program. Adults (ESL included) enrolled in this program are unable to attend traditional adult classes due to lack of transportation, childcare and resources, and are offered educational experience in the Adult Basic Education (ABE), and General Education Development (GED) classes. There is no cost to the District.

A-20, Out of State Field Trip Matrix for Bullard High School

APPROVED, as recommended, the High School Out of State Field Trip Matrix for the following trips:

- Bullard High School Jazz students to travel to Reno, Nevada for the Reno Jazz Festival April 25 -27, 2008.
- Bullard High School Track students to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada for the Las Vegas Invitational Track Meet March 28 – 29, 2008.

Students will fundraise for the cost of \$250.00 per student for the Reno trip, and \$100.00 for the Las Vegas trip. Chaperones will pay their own way.

A-21, Submission of Superintendent Designees on the Alternate List to Authorize Work Permits for the 2007/2008 School Year

APPROVED, as recommended, the list of administrators as Alternates to authorize Work Permits. Approval of the alternate list will provide the school site the ability to complete the forms within the time requirements if the primary administrator is not available. There is no cost to the district.

A-22, School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL) Charter Renewal Petition

APPROVED, as recommended, the Renewal Charter Petition from the School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL), for five years commencing July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013. The District's Charter School Review Team and Legal Counsel's recommended changes have been included in the final petition. According to Ed Code 47607(b), a charter school seeking renewal must satisfy one of five conditions for performance accountability. SOUL has met the Condition 4 - "Similar or better performance relative to similar local schools." Cambridge data was used as the comparative reference based on the demographic similarities. The estimated fiscal impact for 2008-2009 is \$919,976. This assumes that all 240 students are from Fresno Unified. \$5,809.00 - estimated 08/09 Revenue Limit per ADA; 240 - estimated resident students attending charter; \$1,394,136 for Total Revenue Limit Funds; 474,160 - Resident; for a total of \$919,976 - Possible Financial Impact of Charter.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-23, Revised Board Policies Based on Legally Mandated Changes, Categorical Program Monitoring Review, and CSBA Recommendations

ADOPTED, as recommended, the DRAFTS of Revised Board Policies being recommended in response to legally mandated changes, Categorical Program Monitoring review, and CSBA recommendation. These items were received by the Board of Education on March 12, 2008. The draft policies include:

- Board Policy 1312.2 – Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
- Board Policy 6142.1 – Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
(CSBA recommendation to merge previous policies 6142.1 and 6142.2)

A-24, Filing of the Notices of Completion for the Projects Listed Below

RATIFIED, as recommended, the Notices of Completion for the following projects listed below:

1. Bid #2623-02, Concrete, Masonry and Chain Link Fencing for the Nutrition Center
2. Bid #2623-03, Precast Concrete for the Nutrition Center
3. Bid #2623-04, Structural Steel and Miscellaneous Iron Work for the Nutrition Center
4. Bid #2623-06, Built-up Roofing and Waterproofing for the Nutrition Center
5. Bid #2623-07, Metal Roofing for the Nutrition Center
6. Bid #2623-08, Storefronts, Glass and Glazing, and Skylights for the Nutrition Center

A-24, Filing of the Notices of Completion for the Projects Listed Below – continued

7. Bid #2623-10, Acoustical Ceilings and Wall Coverings for the Nutrition Center
8. Bid #2623-11, Epoxy Flooring for the Nutrition Center
9. Bid #2623-14, HVAC Fire Sprinklers for the Nutrition Center
 - a. *Fiscal Impact for Bid Item #2623-02, 03, 04, 06, 07, 08, 10, 11, and 14 Nutrition Center Packages will be from Food Service Funds.*
10. Bid #2713, HVAC Equipment Addition and Replacement for Birney, Calwa, and Easterby Elementary Schools
11. Bid #2731, HVAC Equipment and Replacement for Homan, Jefferson, and Ewing Elementary Schools
12. Bid #2741, HVAC Equipment and Replacement for Lane, Lowell, and Mayfair Elementary Schools
13. Bid #2801, HVAC Equipment Addition and Replacement for Norseman, Turner, Wilson, and Winchell Elementary Schools
14. Bid #2804 A, HVAC Equipment Addition and Replacement for Anthony, Ayer, Balderas, Hidalgo, Leavenworth, Muir, Rowell, Slater, and Storey Elementary Schools
15. Bid #2804 B (Part One), Installation of Heat Pumps for 25 Elementary School Sites as indicated on the attached sheet.
 - a. *Fiscal Impact for items 10 through 15 will be from Year-Round Air Conditioning (YRAC) Funds.*

The projects have been completed according to plans and specifications.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-25, Authorization for the Superintendent or the Associate Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer to Award Bid #2823, Asphalt Rehabilitation of the Education Center, Gibson Elementary School, Wawona Middle School, and Hoover High School

AWARDED. As recommended, to Bid #2823 for Asphalt Rehabilitation of the Education Center, Gibson Elementary School, Wawona Middle School, and Hoover High School to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Purchase orders will be presented to the Board for ratification at a future Board Meeting. Sufficient funds have been budgeted for and are available in the Deferred Maintenance and Measure K Funds. The Education Center rehabilitation will be paid with the Routine Restricted Maintenance Fund. Anticipated expenditures will be in fiscal year 2007/08.

A-26, Claim #08-0227-0052, Steven Paul Rudolph

DENIED, as recommended, the Claim for Damages from Steven Paul Rudolph, #08-0227-0052. The matter has been referred to the District's Director of Benefits and Risk Management for further handling.

A-27, Claim #08-0306-0064, P.V. Holding Corporation; Avis Rent-A-Car

DENIED, as recommended, the Claim for Damages from P.V. Holding Corporation; Avis Rent-A-Car, #08-0306-0064. The matter has been referred to the District's Director of Benefits and Risk Management for further handling.

A-28, Purchase Orders from January 14, 2008 through February 25, 2008

RATIFIED, as recommended, a listing of purchase orders, in excess of \$10,000, submitted for ratification by the Board.

President Vang commented that the Brown Act requires that the public be given an opportunity to speak on matters relating to the school district's business during Board meetings and this Board welcomes public comment as designated on the agenda. Matters presented during Public Comments will be referred to the Superintendent for appropriate follow up.

The Board recognizes that Public Comment speakers often have very strong feelings regarding school district issues, which may involve individual school district employees or other persons. However, the Board expects all speakers to appreciate the rights of others by conducting themselves in a civil and respectful manner at all times.

As Board President, he cannot permit any speaker to discuss confidential information regarding a particular student or employee and must ensure that speakers abide by their obligation to respect the rights of others.

The Board appreciates their observance of these principles of civility, respect and order, which will best ensure that the right of public comment is safeguarded without compromising the efficient and effective conduct of Board meetings.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**Mary Helen Davis**

Expressed concerns with the rate of pay for substitute aids in Fresno Unified and would like the Board to consider raising the pay rate.

Jose Castro

Expressed concerns with a safety meeting that was to be held at Del Mar and was cancelled by the site administrator and requested Board President to inform the school principal not to cancel meetings when parents are requesting meetings. He also expressed concerns that the district is losing many students to the Zero Tolerance and respect the rights of parents.

Joe Barron

Thanked all the individuals who provided him the ability to access student information with special needs. He also publicly apologized to the Board President and Members of the Board and how Assistant Superintendent Jones was mistreated at a CAC meeting held at Fresno High.

Monique Luiez

Expressed concerns with the dismissal times at Robinson and Ahwahnee and she also offered her services to do the cooking for Robinson School.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA**A-10, Contract with The Red Schoolhouse for Formative Assessment and School-Based Scanning/Reporting System**

APPROVED, as recommended, a contract with The Red Schoolhouse for a 15 month license for the use of a formative assessment and school-based scanning system. The assessment system meets Fresno Unified's requirements for alignment to the California Standards, technical quality, and resource/cost effectiveness. The contract will commence upon Board approval, and continue through June 30, 2009. Funding will be provided through Research, Evaluation and Assessment's Title I budget in the amount of \$272,385.00.

Member Mills requested clarification of the funding source.

Executive Director Calhoun stated that funding will be for the use of Title I school sites.

Member Mills questioned if the District will be transferring student data to this company.

Executive Director Calhoun stated that the district will build the roster and create an assessment in the classroom and teachers will be able to print an answer sheet for their students in their class.

Member Mills questioned the confidentiality of the contract with student information.

Executive Director Calhoun stated that under the law FIRPA, student information is secured as stipulated in the agreement.

Member Mills moved for approval, seconded by Member Davis, which carried an 8-0-1 *with Student Member Curry absent.*

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**A-13, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Character Education Program (PCEP)**

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the Partnerships in Character Education Program grant with the United States Department of Education to design and implement character education programs into classroom instruction consistent with state academic content standards in collaboration with school staff, students, parents and community partners. Another round of funding will allow FUSD to expand this model program of lesson development and teacher training to the middle school. In addition, all elementary school teachers will be trained for implementation. Maximum funding is \$500,000 per year for four years. Grant funds will cover all program costs.

Member Nunez requested to combine agenda items (A-13, A-14, A-15, A-16, and A-17) and commended Assistant Superintendent Bengel for her dedication and her hard efforts and moved for approval of A-13, A-14, A-15, A-16, and A-17, seconded by Member Davis, which carried an 8-0-1 with Student Member Curry absent.

The following individual addressed the Board with her concerns regarding these agenda items:

- Brunette Harris expressed concerns with the use of all these grant funds and that the District does not have enough funds to address the needs of the students at Martin Luther King School. She requested Member Johnson not take any action on these items and will contact the Department of Education to express her concerns on the use of grant funds.

A-14, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP)

RATIFIED, as recommended, an application material for the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) with the United States Department of Education to establish, expand or enhance physical education programs that help students to meet state standards for physical education and develop lifelong habits of wellness. The District has developed an application for this round of funding to purchase outdoor “wellness center” equipment for elementary and secondary schools and provide professional learning to teachers and after school staff. Matching funds are required; 10% in year 1 and 25% in year 2 and 3. Matching funds will be provided through District in-kind contribution of the Physical Education Coordinator and CSU Fresno faculty time dedicated to this project. Maximum grant amount is \$500,000 per year for three years.

See comments and approval of this item under Agenda Item A-13.

A-15, Submission of a Grant Application to the Sprint Foundation for the Sprint Ahead for Education Program

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the Sprint Ahead for Education Grant program for character education programs that promote youth leadership, youth volunteerism, school pride and a positive school culture. An application will be developed to enhance the Character Counts’ Pursuing Victory with Honor program being implemented at District middle schools. Pursuing Victory with Honor is a character building program that teaches ethics in sports. Grant funds will be used to purchase instructional materials and posters. Grant funds will cover all program costs.

Maximum funding for the one-time grant is \$25,000 per district.

See comments and approval of this item under Agenda Item A-13.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**A-16, Submission of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Education for the Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) Program**

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) grant with the United States Department of Education to improve educational and social outcomes for children and families by coordinating the delivery of comprehensive services at school sites. The FSCS model is based on youth development research and strives to create environments with caring relationships, high expectations and opportunities for meaningful participation. The program must be developed and implemented by a Local Education Agency (LEA) in partnership with one or more community based organizations (CBOs) and public or private entities. The grant application will include the Carver Middle School attendance area. All program costs will be provided through the grant. A maximum of \$500,000 is available per year for the five year grant period.

See comments and approval of this item under Agenda Item A-13.

A-17, Submission of a Grant Application to the California Department of Education for Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Competitive Program

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Competitive Grant to improve student academic achievement in grades four through eight through the use of technology. Priority is given to middle schools and participating schools were identified by based upon student to computer (S/C) ratios for the 2007-08 school year.

School	Student/Computer Ratio	2006 CBEDS Count	Funding Amount
Scandinavian	8:1	767	\$230,100
Terronez	8:1	917	\$275,100
Total			\$505,200

All other middle schools have ratios of less than 5:1, with the exception of Baird at 7:1. Only two schools could be included in this application because the maximum amount an LEA in CTAP Region 7 can apply for is \$577,759. English Language Arts teachers and students will benefit through professional learning that aligns curriculum with the use of technology tools. All program costs will be provided through the grant. Grant awards will be allocated at \$300 per student in grades 4-8 as per the 2006 CBEDS.

See comments and approval of this item under Agenda Item A-13.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**A-18, Submission of an Application to the Fresno Council of Government for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program-Cycle and a Resolution Supporting Project Completion Dates and Timely Use of Funding**

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program-Cycle I to modify the existing fueling station by improving the capacity of compressed natural gas tanks and installation of additional fueling hookups (an increase of 16 stations with 2 connections per station). The upgrade would allow for all CNG busses to be filled at one time. The Board Resolution Supporting Project Completion Dates and Timely Use of Funding requested. The grant requires that the applicant provide 11.74% of the total project cost as a match. These matching funds will be provided by the Transportation Department.

Member Mills stated for clarification that there will be 16 hookups and that this project will not be funded until 2010.

Member Nunez moved for approval, seconded by Member Johnson, which carried an 8-0-1 *with Student Member Curry absent*.

B-29, Constituent Services Quarterly Reporting for November 1, 2007 through January 31, 2008

Administrator Pinheiro presented the Constituent Services Quarterly Reporting for Constituent Services activities for the time period of November 1, 2007 through January 31, 2008. Also included is the Quarterly Reporting for the Valenzuela/Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures reporting for November 1, 2007 through January 31, 2008 per Ed Code §35186. The full report of complaints and responses are available in the Constituent Services Office for review.

Superintendent Hanson stated that the Superintendent of Pasadena, Edwin Diaz wanted to address the CRSS workshop regarding constituent services program and thanked Administrator Pinheiro for all she has done.

Member Ryan concurred with Superintendent Hanson for the hard work and questioned if there was something happening at several school sites that by having these queries all to one place that they would be able to identify problems that were systemwide that could be fixed and has any of that happened yet?

Administrator Pinheiro stated that there have been several instances districtwide, one is where several schools were filing Williams complaints and based on that, they met with the organizers and developed a more effective relationship with them instead of having formal complaints filed.

Member Davis requested clarification on the Valenzuela/Williams case.

Administrator Pinheiro stated the Valenzuela case refers to a CASHEE settlement.

Member Mills questioned if the PRA's being recorded as formal PRA requests and are there any outstanding requests at this time?

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**B-29, Constituent Services Quarterly Reporting for November 1, 2007 through January 31, 2008**

Administrator Pinheiro stated that if it's an informal request it would fall under request for service or information and there is one outstanding and is currently being worked on.

The following individuals addressed the board with their thoughts regarding this agenda item:

- Ernesto Cisneros expressed concerns on whether the parents have been provided the information. He also expressed concerns that he feels the parents should not be charged for requesting documents from school sites.
- Jose Castro expressed concerns about privacy in the complaint process.

Comments were made by Members Ryan, Davis, and Mills.

B-30, General Waiver Request for Middle and High School Supplemental Counseling Program

HOLD the Public HEARING and APPROVED, as recommended, the General Waiver Request to the California State Board of Education for the Middle and High School Supplemental Counseling Program. If approved, this waiver will expand services to additional middle and high school students.

Currently, this program is limited to students in grades 7 to 12 and who score at the far below basic level in English language arts or mathematics on the California Standards Test (CST). The waiver would allow the District to expand these counseling services to students in grade 6 and also to students who score below basic on the CST. The period of the request of this waiver is July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2011. There is no fiscal impact to the district.

Superintendent Hanson stated that this is the beginning of working with the State Department and State Board of Education on continuing to improve the educational system. 1) They will go after flexibility of all types that are taking away from educating kids; 2) under the Long Beach partnership the State superintendent will provide waivers for the State Board of Education in May and July; 3) they will be looking in other areas beyond the partnership and State Superintendent will be able to help them; and 4) that they get greater flexibility in the categorical funds.

Executive Director Harris presented a brief summary of the District Waiver approval in support of the Fresno-Long Beach Learning Partnership. He presented the Middle and High School Supplemental Counseling (AB1802) waiver and the Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Waiver.

Superintendent Hanson commented that the two waivers will get Fresno Unified into a position to do something different as an option. There are larger categoricals that they are still pursuing, EIA and School Compensatory Ed that will come forward during the summer. They are seeking flexibility with the State Department of Education to seek waivers that they can use to our advantage here in Fresno.

Member Davis questioned the number of kids that will be impacted if they stretch it to 6th, 7th and 8th grades?

Superintendent Hanson stated that they can give them a potential number of kids, where there are counselors but they don't have that level of detail at this time. This is just establishing the process by which they will be bringing this forward. They will be back to the Board to explain how they would use the waiver to their benefit. They are currently learning how to work through this process. He also wants the board to know when they're pursuing waivers is to create a possibility to impact our entire school system in a more systematic way.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**B-30, General Waiver Request for Middle and High School Supplemental Counseling Program – continued**

Superintendent Hanson stated that they can give them a potential number of kids, where there are counselors but they don't have that level of detail at this time. This is just establishing the process by which they will be bringing this forward. They will be back to the Board to explain how they would use the waiver to their benefit. They are currently learning how to work through this process. He also wants the board to know when they're pursuing waivers is to create a possibility to impact our entire school system in a more systematic way.

Member Davis moved for approval of Agenda Items B-30 and B-31, seconded by Member Johnson.

Member Asadoorian questioned how likely is the State Board to approve the waivers?

Superintendent Hanson stated that he feels that it will be more than procedural, it will have a big impact, and they're relying on the State Superintendent and some advocates for support. These, initial waivers, will be an easier sell for the State Board on the first try. He also feels that there will be a lot of special interests that will try and block some of this work.

Executive Harris stated that he has been in constant conversation with the California Department of Education (CDE).

Member Ryan stated they need to go after the flexibility and questioned if there is potential funds to use in the high school counseling?

Superintendent Hanson stated that they would consider it and talk about it. He also stated that they are only seeking State categorical programs.

CFO Quinto stated that AB1802 counseling money is not restricted by Title I.

Superintendent Hanson commented that they should be hopeful and look at this as a multi-year effort to expand our capacity to do things. In response to Member Johnson's comments, he stated that cultural indicators within the district are critically important as well.

President Vang questioned the comprehensive partnership review and when will it be?

Executive Director stated it should come up around June.

Superintendent Hanson stated that he feels that they've done a good job in creating the expectation that something will happen.

President Vang Opened the Public hearing for Agenda items A-30 and A-31 and hearing no speakers, closed the public hearing.

President Vang stated there is a motion and a second to approve B-30 and B-31, and asked for all those in favor, which carried an 8-0-1 *with Student Member Curry absent*.

Comments were made by Members Davis, Ryan, Johnson, and Mills.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**B-31, General Waiver Request for the Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program (IMFRP)**

HOLD the Public HEARING and APPROVED, as recommended, General Waiver Request to the California State Board of Education for the Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program (IMFRP) to purchase supplementary instructional materials and technology-based materials once textbook needs have been met. This waiver would expand the uses of IMFRP funding to purchase the technology needed to support implementation of State adopted supplemental materials. This flexibility would enable the district to reap the full educational benefits of supplementary technological components that often come with textbook adoptions. State adopted instructional materials include technology-based components that have the potential to motivate digital-age students and deepen their conceptual understanding of the content. Teachers have expressed concern regarding the lack of appropriate technology to fully implement new technology-based materials. Increased access to instructional technology can help develop critical thinking and problem solving skills that will help them succeed in a global workplace.

See comments and approval of this item under Agenda Item B-30.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS**C-32, DRAFT Revision to Board Policy 1312.1, Complaints Concerning District Employees**
RECEIVED draft revision to Board Policy 1312.1, to reflect the April 25, 2007 adoption of the Constituent Services Board Policy and CSBA recommendation. The draft policy includes:

- Board Policy 1312.1 – Complaints Concerning District Employees.

The Board Policy will return to a future board meeting for adoption.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS**Superintendent Hanson**

- Announced the Fresno's Finest event next Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Saroyan Theater.
- Announced Superintendent O'Connell's visit to Fresno, but his stop will be at Sanger Unified School District.
- Thanked Mayor Autry for being a leader among the leaders at the Mayor's Education Roundtable and how he will continue to push forward on several important issues on education including the funding of a statewide data system that is critical to Fresno Unified.
- Senator Darrell Steinburg will continue his primary work on the dropout issues. Will provide the Board with further information in the next several months with updates on Legislation by Senator Steinburg.
- Will provide the board in the next several months with an update on the definition of a Community School as the District approaches a West Fresno Middle School.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS – continued

Member Nunez requested that it be in the next several weeks not months regarding this information. The District needs to communicate with the community that they are actively moving forward. He stated that he would like to see a structure in place and would like to know who will be on the Ad hoc committee who will be selecting a site or other important information as to the funding source for this project.

Superintendent Hanson stated that he understands Member Nunez' request and will continue to work deliberatively and as quickly as they positively can.

Member Nunez

- Provided the Board with brief report from the Council of Great City Schools conference held in Washington, D.C. on the topics of:
 - Changes to the NCLB act program
 - Education Committee
 - Budget on Title I, categorical and Vocational Education funding
 - Announced the Bilingual Education Conference will be held in Austin, TX on May 8-10, 2008
- Announced Chamber of Commerce meeting at Fresno City College.

Member Mills

- Requested an update on the outcome of Dailey School.

Member Ryan

- Requested more copies of the Core Beliefs postcards to hand out to people in the community.
- Stated that she certainly appreciates the people in the Dailey School area wanting to have some answers and she feels that the Board cannot make any decisions until the Board has received clarity on the District's budget.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, President Vang declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



MICHAEL E. HANSON, SECRETARY to the
Board of Education