

**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Fresno Unified School District
NOVEMBER 7, 2007**

**Fresno, California
November 7, 2007**

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 November 7, 2007, there were present Members Asadoorian, Davis, Ryan, Vang, and President Mills. Also present was Superintendent Hanson.

President Mills convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. in the Board Room for the purpose of the Board Workshop on Technology by staff. *Members Johnson arrived at 2:38 and Member Nunez arrived at 2:40 p.m.*

Chief Technology Officer Madden and Technology staff presented on Information Technology (IT) in the District, followed with a discussion by the Board and staff on topics contained in the presentation or related to technology. The topics covered in the presentation portion of the agenda:

1. Information Technology Vision, Mission, and Theory of Action – CTO Madden
2. Network and Engineering –Eric Tilton
3. Instructional Technology – Patty Patrick
4. EmpowerNet – Joel Rabin
5. Learner Support – Gary Duran
6. Production Systems and Applications – Art Frigon

A copy of this PowerPoint is available in the Board Office upon request or on the district's website (Quick Links under Broad Briefs – November 7, 2007)

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

President Mills RECESSED at 4:30 p.m. for a BREAK and report to Closed Session at 4:40 p.m. and RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room and report action taken during Closed Session. *Student Members Curry and Vasquez were absent.*

Staff Present

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

Reporting Out of Closed Session

1. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Lillian Harautuneian to District Coordinator in Curriculum Professional Development.
2. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to hire Edward Ortega, Vice Principal I, Program Manager to Columbia Elementary School.
3. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Russell Allsman to Vice Principal I, Program Manager to Leavenworth Elementary.
4. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Kevin Evangelinos to Guidance/Categorical Learning Coordinator, Terronez Middle School.
5. The Board was informed of the lateral transfer of Pat Roehl to Project Coordinator in State and Federal Programs.
6. *Continued on page 142.*

Pledge of Allegiance

McCardle parent, Terry Krosschell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Krosschell is a star parent and a valuable member of the McCardle family. He is currently the President of PTA and regularly volunteers in his daughter's classroom.

President Mills acknowledged the passing of a district employee, Velda Boutte and expresses condolences to her family.

Minutes

APPROVED, with revisions noted by President Mills and Member Ryan the draft minutes for May 15, 2007 and May 16, 2007, Special Board Meetings.

Member Johnson moved for approval, seconded by Member Davis, which carried a 7-0-2 vote *with Student Members Curry and Vasquez absent.*

Reports from Student Board Representatives

Student Representative Wendy Garcia from Hoover High School provided comments/reports from Student Board Representatives hosted by Hoover High School with Members Asadoorian and Ryan present.

Student Member Curry arrived at 5:40 p.m.

On motion by Member Nunez, seconded by Member Johnson the Consent Agenda, exclusive of Agenda Items: A-2, A-4, A-9, and A-14, approved on a roll call vote of 8-0-1 as follows: Student Member Curry, Members Asadoorian, Davis, Johnson, Nunez, Ryan, Vang, and President Mills. *Student Member Vasquez was absent.*

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, Personnel List

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

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

PULLED for consideration from this agenda.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued**A-3, Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board**

ADOPTED, as recommended, a Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board as December 12, 2007. Pursuant to Section 35143 of the Education Code of the State of California, the governing board of each district shall hold an annual organizational meeting on a day within a 15-day period which commences on the first Friday of December and requires that the annual organizational meeting date be selected at a regular meeting before the 15-day period.

A-4, Revisions to the Job Description for the Coordinator, Mental Health

PULLED for discussion.

A-5, Amended Agreement No. 3004SR008 with Children and Families Commission of Fresno County (First 5) for Greenberg School Readiness Program

RATIFIED, as recommended, the amended agreement with First 5 Fresno County Children and Families Commission with the Fresno Unified School District Child Development Program to provide funding for the Greenberg School Readiness Program. The new contract amount is \$1,230,093., which includes the 2007-2008 amended funding in the amount of \$296,288. It is the intent of the parties that this Amendment I to Agreement shall become effective retroactively to September 1, 2003, the start date of Agreement No. 3004SR4008, and that all other provisions of the Agreement remain unchanged. Funding provided through First 5 Fresno County Children and Families Commission in the amended amount of \$296,288.

A-6, Local Agreement for Child Development Services Contract CPKP-7036, Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Program and Resolution for Services and Authorization

RATIFIED and ADOPTED, as recommended, the local Agreement for Child Development Services Contract CPKP-7036, Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Program (PKFLP) with the Fresno Unified School District Child Development Program to provide funding for preschool services for 19 classes at 12 elementary school sites and the Resolution for services and authorization to certify the approval of the governing board to enter into this transaction with the California Department of Education for the purpose of providing child care and development services and to authorize the designated personnel to sign contract documents for Fiscal Year 2007/08. This is a ratify agreement due to receiving documentation in October. The period for expenditures is effective from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Funding provided through the California Department of Education Child Care and Development Fund in the amount of \$202,492.

A-7, Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Cullinan Education Center

RATIFIED, as recommended, a Contract with The Cullinan Education Center to provide Educational Therapy for one FUSD student. A previous contract for this vendor was approved at the August 8, 2007 Board meeting; the dates for this additional contract are for the period of September 13, 2007 through June 30, 2008 to provide services for one student requiring Educational Therapy. These services are required as part of the student's IEP and under a settlement agreement; thus, the District is responsible for payment for these services. Funding is through the Special Education budget for 198 hours at a rate of \$55/hour, for a total of \$10,890.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-8, Memorandum of Understanding with the State Center Community College District (SCCCD) for Preschool Program

RATIFIED, as recommended, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SCCC and FUSD to operate a Preschool Program, which references a District-operated Preschool Program on an SCCC-owned site that includes no more than nine preschool children with special needs, ages 3-5 years. Under the terms of this contract, SCCC provides, at its cost and expense, a Preschool Program (located in the Child Development Center at Fresno City College), associated utilities and insurance, instructional supplies, and meals. Funds are included in the Special Education budget. In addition, FUSD will pay a facility fee of 25% of the tuition for 9 children which is approximately \$8,910.00.

A-9, Four Memorandum of Understandings with Fresno ACEL, Sierra, University High, and Valley Preparatory Academy Charter Schools

PULLED for discussion.

A-10, Additional Costs for the 2005/2006 External Audit Work

RATIFIED, as recommended, the District's external auditing firm, presented justification to members for additional external audit expenses of \$18,000 for services performed in connection with fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. The cited cost overruns due primarily to the challenges associated with the transition from the previous audit firm of 13 years and the lack of cooperation from the previous external auditor. The Audit Committee formerly recommended the approval by a unanimous vote at the September 11, 2007 meeting. Sufficient funds are available in the District's Administrative Services budget for 2007/08.

A-11, Submission of the First 5 Outdoor Play Initiative Grant with First 5 Fresno County

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the First 5 Fresno County Outdoor Play Initiative (OPI) grant. First 5 Fresno County is offering funding support through the OPI to licensed center-based child care and preschool programs with the goal of improving the quality and safety of outdoor play environments. Funds through this initiative will assist the District in improving outdoor play areas for the health and safety of children 0 to 5 years of age. All improvements will be covered by grant funds. The OPI requires a \$10,000 match that will be provided by the District through the contribution of time to complete playground design specifications and substitute release time and supplemental pay for staff to participate in training provided by First 5 Fresno County.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued**A-12, Submission of Edison High School’s Specialized Secondary Program (SSP) Grant Application to the California Department of Education**

APPROVED, as recommended, an application material for the California Department of Education Specialized Secondary Program (SSP) Grant. The purpose of the program is to develop new standards-based model curriculum and provide varied instructional methodologies or organizational structures that emphasize advanced, in-depth study of a targeted content area. Funding is for four years.

Year 1 - Planning Grant	\$35,000
Year 2 - Implementation	\$125,000
Year 3 - Implementation	\$75,000
Year 4 – Implementation	\$50,000
Total Funding	\$285,000

The grant award period will be from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2012. The application is due November 15, 2007. Grant funds will cover all program costs.

A-13, Submission of the Improving Health and Educational Outcomes of Young People: Priority 4 Asthma Management Grant Application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services

APPROVED, as recommended, the application material for the Health and Human Services (HHS) Priority 4 Asthma Management grant. Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) is one of 23 LEAs across the country identified by HHS as eligible to apply for funding under this priority. LEA eligibility was based upon five criteria, including 1) size of the metropolitan area served; 2) student enrollment; 3) percentage of students from low income families; 4) percentage of minority students; and 5) reported rates of asthma. FUSD is eligible to receive \$225,000 per year for five years. Funds would be used to implement effective policies and practices to prevent and reduce asthma episodes and absences among students with asthma. Grant funds will cover all program costs.

A-14, Reappointment of Member of Measure K Oversight Committee

PULLED for discussion.

A-15, Claim #07-0614-0213, Valerie Hurd

DENIED, as recommended, Claim #07-0614-0213 for Damages. The matter has been referred to the District’s Director of Benefits and Risk Management for further handling.

A-16, Purchase Orders from September 17, 2007 through October 16, 2007

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

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**Jake Turner**

Expressed concerns by FTA’s teacher shortage and lack of substitutes.

Margarita Caballero

Expressed concerns with the English Learner Advisory Committee sample bylaws and who has the right to make these changes and stated that the parents are the ones who make the changes.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**Ernest Cisneros**

Expressed concerns with the bylaws that have been distributed at the ELAC committee. The parents are the ones that have the right to make these changes and requested a written response to the parents.

Romero Lopez

Expressed concerns with the ELAC bylaws and if the district is not going to respect what the parents do then they should give the ELAC committee to the district, because the district is making the changes without the parents knowledge.

Jose Castro

The parents are not happy with the district. They want an accounting of all Title I & II funds.

Mario Talaveva

ELAC representative from Holman Elementary requested that the Board be more conscience of their decisions.

Rufugio Castaneda

ELAC president at John Muir Elementary would like the board to approve the bylaws and respect the rights of the parents.

Esmeralda Diaz

Thanked President Mills and Member Nunez for attending the ELAC meeting. The parents are having problems with the bylaws for ELAC and the committee would like to have an administrator from each of the schools to be a part of the ELAC board.

Robert Mitchell

Expressed concerns over a statement that was made by the Vice Principal at M.L. King Elementary and requested the board look into this concern immediately. He stated that Carver has a part-time principal and poor academic performance and urged the board to revisit the situation at Carver and give them a full time principal.

Booker Lewis

Pastor to Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church in West Fresno, members of his church, community and parents of M.L. King School want to express their concerns over the matter of what was said by V.P. Wolters at the school staff meeting in October. They have been told of an investigation but no results have been publicized or made available to the parent community.

Robert Harris

Concurs with the previous speakers and it's time to listen to the public and West Fresno.

President Mills stated that there are 6 members of the public that still wish to address the board and requested the board if they wish to extend the time for open communication. Member Johnson motion to extend, seconded by President Mills.

Member Ryan suggested if it was on the same subject they could consolidate and have one person speak.

President Mills stated that the motion carried to extend time for unscheduled.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – continued**Brunette Harris**

Expressed concerns with the same situation, and with the NCLB at King Elementary School.

Lillie Pancotti

Expressed concerns as a parent and the remarks from the administration at King Elementary School.

Gloria Ponce Rodriguez

Wants to thank all of individuals involved in the success towards the HBC University event, they had many students that were accepted on the spot.

Juan Carlos Chavez

Expressed concerns with the ELAC bylaws and if the district wants to be leaders of these bylaws, then inform the parents.

Charles Waters

Expressed concerns with political activities in the district.

David Polly

Concern with M.L. King school and strongly consider taking action with the administration.

David Cooley

Vice President of NAACP of Fresno and expressed the same concerns as the parents and community of West Fresno. The board needs to take some kind of action to remove this person or take disciplinary action.

Johnny Nellum

Expressed concerns with Carver School and the part-time principal situation and requests the board to make some changes.

Carmen Pasquel

A parent from Carver Middle School also has a concern of a part-time principal. She had a situation occur with her daughter and her teacher, she went to the school and the principal and vice principal did not want to attend to her concerns. There is a need for a full time principal.

Member Vang stated there are many concerns that the district needs to address especially with the ELAC and Carver sites. President Mills stated all concerns are automatically directed to the Superintendent for response.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA**A-4, Revisions to the Job Description for the Coordinator, Mental Health**

APPROVED, as recommended, a revised job description for the position of Coordinator, Mental Health. This position description has been amended in three main areas: title, position duties, and licensing requirements for the position. The amendments have been made in order to make the position more relevant to the District's desire to promote a tiered system of behavior supports.

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

- Mary Lou Brauti Minkler from NAMI Fresno expressed concerns with the changes in the job description of the Mental Health Coordinator and feel by changing the requirements essentially is eliminating the position. The job duties of the position are extensive and have increased. The elimination of that position is what they are concerned about.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued

A-4, Revisions to the Job Description for the Coordinator, Mental Health – continued

- Helen Siporin Co-chair of the child adolescent committee for NAMI Fresno expressed concerns with the revisions to the job description. NAMI has invited Fresno Unified Department of Prevention and Intervention (DPI) and Special Education to their community advisor committee and they have not received an understanding or answer from FUSD. They don't want the position changed, in fact, they would like to see it include positive behavioral supports and would like that system integrated with mental health services They ask the Board not to delete or revise the Mental Health Coordinator position and take the time for community organizational input.

Associate Superintendent Tucker stated that she has been working with staff and with the efforts of DPI, Special Ed, and Leadership departments. She concurs with the speakers and the concerns need to be addressed with mental health issues. The positive behavioral support throughout the district and the intent is to have this position work with the academic support, behavior support.

President Mills questioned whether they would be having other licensed personnel working under the coordinator?

Associate Superintendent Tucker stated that they're not adding positions but have outside services that the coordinator will be matching to student needs.

President Mills stated that part of the concerns from the speakers is that there is no person to help identify who those students are?

Associate Superintendent Tucker stated that the new position has a broader scope where they can broker the services.

Member Johnson questioned the experience, which is not in the job description and the need to understand the student needs.

Associate Superintendent Tucker stated that in the screening process they could still screen out those who do not have the mental health services background.

Member Nunez expressed concerns on early identification of those students and the inclusion of family in assisting with the diagnosing and recommendations to behavior modification.

Member Ryan stated that with the new job description they are expanding the services to the students by having a person who can help identify inside and outside the system, which can help the needs of the student?

Associate Superintendent Tucker stated that is the intent.

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

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA – continued**A-9, Four Memorandum of Understandings with Fresno ACEL, Sierra, University High, and Valley Preparatory Academy Charter Schools**

APPROVED, as recommended, four Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Fresno ACEL, Sierra, University High, and Valley Preparatory Academy Charters. The term of the Agreements shall be coterminous with the term of each charter school granted by the District's governing board. The fiscal impact as previously shown in prior Board meetings are: (\$300,145 - Fresno ACEL); (\$107,539 - Valley Preparatory Academy); (\$680,514 - Sierra); and (\$146,694 - University High) for a total of \$1,234,892. The proposed MOU agreements do not change the fiscal impact.

Member Nunez expressed concerns with all the charter information coming as one item and in the future that each contract be presented separately. The other concern was that three of the four Charter schools Board of Directors are volunteers and that none are paid or given stipends. Also, that 3 of the 4 charters were buying supplies, books and materials directly from a variety of vendors and not through the Corporation Office and with the noted information, moved for approval all of the MOU's with the additional information from ACEL.

Director Bessard stated that she will follow-up with ACEL, but ACEL requested an extension for the opening of school in the fall of 2008 and will comply with Member Nunez' request.

Member Nunez questioned why the need to include ACEL in this process and moved for approval on the other items.

Director Bessard stated the board received revised information.

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

A-14, Reappointment of Member of Measure K Oversight Committee

APPROVED, as recommended, the reappointment Daniel Fitzpatrick. President Mills wishes to reappoint him to the Committee. Mr. Fitzpatrick has extensive municipal government and land development experience, and has been active in assisting Fresno Unified on the Operational/Fiscal Services Task Force and the Facilities Ad hoc Advisory Committee in addition to the Measure K Oversight Committee. (There is no prohibition against an individual serving on both the Facilities and Measure K Committees.)

Member Nunez expressed concerns on Mr. Fitzpatrick serving on two committees and also with Mr. Fitzpatrick being on the Facilities committee presenting at the City Council without board approval.

Superintendent Hanson addressed this concern and will discuss this further with Member Nunez and will work closely with the Ad Hoc committee.

Member Johnson stated the individual serving on two committees should not preclude him to continue serving.

Member Vang moved for approval, seconded by President Mills, which carried a 7-1-1 vote *with Member Nunez dissenting and Student Member Vasquez absent*.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS**C-17, Fresno Unified School District 2007/2008 Negotiations Proposals to California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 125 White Collar Unit and CSEA, Chapter 143, Food Service Unit**

RECEIVED in accordance with Government Code 3547, all initial proposals of the public school employers shall be presented at a public meeting of the public school employer, and there after shall be public record. The Fresno Unified School District is herewith submitting its negotiations proposals to California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 125, White Collar Unit and CSEA, Chapter 143, Food Service Unit for the 2007/08 school year. These proposals will be returned to the next agenda for a public hearing and adoption by the Fresno Unified Board of Education.

No questions from the Board on this item.

C-18, Fresno Unified School District's First Quarterly Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2007/08

RECEIVED the first quarter investment report for the period ending September 30, 2007. Board Policy 3430(a) requires the Superintendent, or designee, to supply the Board of Education with quarterly and annual reports on District investments. As of September 30, 2007, Fresno Unified School District is in compliance with Board Policy 3430(a) for investments. District funds are invested in a manner that meets the primary objective of safeguarding the principal of the funds and serving the District's liquidity needs. District funds are invested as follows:

County Treasury Investment Pool	\$299,651,566
Certificates of Participation	\$ 209,494,662**

** This amount represents escrow funds held by trustees at U.S. Bank. These funds are invested in United States Treasury Bills and Notes, which are backed by U.S. Federal Government.

In accordance with law and administrative regulations, this investment report also certifies that the Fresno Unified School District has sufficient cash on hand to meet the District's cash requirements for the next six months.

No questions on this item from board members.

D. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS**President Mills**

- Announced the Toys for Tots donation boxes for this year that will be distributed through the Ed Center and will be working with Susan Bedi for this event. If anyone knows of any businesses that would like a box at their location, they can pick up the box or contact her for arrangements.

Member Nunez

- Provided a summary from the Council of Great City Schools and requested a workshop on EL students and the programs available in the district.

D. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS – continued

Superintendent Hanson

- Provided an update on the Council of Great City Schools on NCLB from the legislative staff.
- The California Collaborative for District Reform on English Learners show research results from Stanford on the migration patterns from Latin America breaking it down to two classifications, rural to rural and urban to urban. Fresno falling into the rural category. Students coming from rural environments are poorer and have a lower level of education attainment when coming to US as compared to their urban counterparts. Also, there are Districts that are doing better with English Learner as a subgroup, these Districts will be visiting Fresno and giving us input.

President Mills RECESSED for a BREAK at 7:25 p.m. and went into Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. and RECONVENED at 8:55 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

6. By a vote of 7-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session to report out a positive evaluation on the Superintendent with a one-year extension to his contract.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, President Mills declared the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.



MICHAEL E. HANSON, SECRETARY to the
Board of Education