

County Board of Education
Ronald L. Stewart Center
77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, California
September 19, 2007

ROLL CALL: Pamela Mirabella, Area 1 Trustee; David Krapf, Area 2 Trustee; Daniel Gomes, Area 3 Trustee; Glenn Ruley, Area 4 Trustee; and Daniel Borsuk, Area 5 Trustee

Absent: None.

Others: Joseph Ovick, Ellen Elster, Ray Penning, Mike Bowers, Peggy Marshburn, Launi Holland, and Laura Dorsey Huerta, County Office staff; Student A-9/19/07's father and sister; Robin Reves, Orinda Union School District. A partial list of attendees is on file at the County Office of Education.

Presiding: Dr. David Krapf, Board President

The regular meeting of the Contra Costa County Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION The Board adopted the agenda as presented (M/S: Mirabella/Ruley).

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

CLOSED SESSION

Interdistrict Attendance Transfer Appeal (Student A-9/19/07)

The Board convened in closed hearing at 6:40 p.m. to consider the interdistrict attendance transfer appeal of parents for their child, Student A-9/19/07, from the West Contra Costa Unified School District to the Orinda Union School District. The Board recessed to closed deliberation at 6:58 p.m. The Board reconvened to closed hearing at 7:05 p.m. and immediately to open session. On behalf of the Board, Facilitator Launi Holland announced that the Contra Costa County Board of Education voted unanimously to deny the interdistrict attendance transfer appeal of Student A-9/19/07 based upon CCCOE Board of Education's Administrative Regulation 5200(D)(3.17) (Other reason to uphold or deny the appeal: In support of Orinda Union School District Administrative Regulation 5117.1(3), "Established staff caseload would be exceeded").

RECOGNITIONS None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing on Provisions of Educ. Code section 60119

Board President Krapf opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. on the provisions of Education Code section 60119 for fiscal year 2007-2008. There was no public input, and Dr. Krapf closed the hearing at 6:03 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT

Report

Dr. Joseph Ovick, County Superintendent of Schools, reported that he attended a meeting at the Alameda County Office of Education at which Secretary of Education David Long did an excellent job of facilitating an open discussion and listening to participants' comments; the bottom line that came out of the discussion is that educators simply cannot do all that they are expected to do with the limited resources they have; Mr. Long stated that the governor has decided that 2008 will be the Year of Education and that it would probably take two to three years to fully accomplish what the governor expects that the new direction would take education; Mr. Long indicated that it is his responsibility to ensure that the governor does not eliminate what is working, help him to determine what is not working, and what can be done to make positive changes; lastly, Mr. Long cautioned that, once the governor unveils his budget, educators need to be prepared to learn that programs and projects may change as a result of the direction that the governor chooses to take. Dr. Ovick reminded Board members

that the Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner would be taking place tomorrow night at the Concord Hilton and he has had an opportunity to personally visit with all 22 of the county's Teachers of the Year. He also noted that there was a very positive article that was published in the Contra Costa Times and the San Jose Mercury on programs offered through grants from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Mr. Borsuk inquired about AB 131 on supplemental counseling, and Dr. Ovick responded that the bill died while still in the Senate because senators received some inaccurate information about the amount of money received per pupil.

BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Resolution No. 1-07/08

Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster introduced this item, explaining that a resolution is needed in order that instructional materials funds may be received by the CCCOE. The Board then voted by the following roll call vote to adopt Resolution No. 1-07/08 acknowledging availability of textbooks and/or instructional materials pursuant to Education Code section 60119: Mirabella, aye; Gomes, aye; Ruley, aye; Borsuk, aye; and Krapf, aye (M/S: Borsuk/ Mirabella).

Lease Agreement

Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster shared with the Board that this lease agreement represents classroom space for the Golden Gate Community School Program in Brentwood. Mr. Penning noted that this lease agreement is for space for instructor Fran Curtis's classroom. Mr. Gomes stated that the lease agreement looked good, but he suggested that staff perform an inspection of the property prior to beginning classes, especially in the case of this agreement, which states that the CCCOE is responsible for the maintenance of the plumbing, air conditioning, and electrical systems in the building. Mrs. Elster assured Mr. Gomes that she would speak to the General Services Department to ensure that an inspection of the property has taken place. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Lease Agreement between the Contra Costa County Board of Education and JFM Development, LLC, for classroom space for the County Office of Education's Golden Gate Community School Program located at 550 Harvest Park Drive, Suite D, Brentwood, CA 94513 (M/S: Ruley/Borsuk).

Staff Report

Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster distributed copies of a resolution passed by the Orange County Board of Education in support of the Medi-Cal Administration Activities (MAA). Dr. Ovick noted that this program has brought in millions of dollars for all the school districts in the Bay Area with the exception of Santa Clara County, because they are part of another consortium. He explained that the Contra Costa County Office of Education is the lead agency for the seven-county San Francisco region and that the U.S. Department of Health can eliminate this program without any involvement by Congress or any hearings whatsoever. Mrs. Elster further clarified that the money from this program that is designated for special education to fund those things that are not funded, such as litigation and providing deaf interpreters. Mr. Penning also noted that the student information system that is being created is funded by the MAA program. Dr. Ovick asked the Board if it would like to see a resolution similar to that passed by the Orange County Board of Education placed on the Board's next agenda, and it was the consensus of the Board to have staff arrange to do so. It was also a consensus of the Board that it would be drafted as a joint resolution so that Dr. Ovick, as County Superintendent, could sign it as well.

STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Staff Report

Ray Penning, Associate Superintendent, Student Programs and Services, reported that a bill, AB 81, was drafted to return CYA students guilty of nonviolent crimes to local jurisdictions and that it has become a huge issue in several counties as they try to find appropriate facilities and determine how the program would work. He noted that, fortunately, there is an old Juvenile Hall facility available in Contra Costa County, since a newer one has been built and that a meeting is planned with Judge Haight next week to discuss the possibility of having 60 students returned to serve their time in a secure environment provided by the Probation Department and Court System and an educational program provided through the CCCOE. He added that the difference between these students and the currently served students is that their stays would be longer. Mr. Penning also reported that there are no interdistrict attendance transfer appeals waiting to be heard by the Board after this evening. Lastly, he informed the Board that three appeals to the Superior Court of decisions made by the Board concerning expulsions have been filed by attorneys because they contend that the students should not have been expelled.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Staff Report

On behalf of Dr. Susan Magnone, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Dr. Ovick reported that Dr. Magnone's division had hosted a training information session earlier this week for all of the counties in the San Francisco Bay Area to better understand the inner workings of AYP and API, how they are calculated, and what they mean. He noted that this is a program that is being presented throughout the state, and Coordinator of Assessment and Accountability Pam Tyson, Ph.D., was the developer of the training.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff Report

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources Department, reported that on October 10, 10:00 a.m. to noon, the California Education Coalition for Healthcare Reform will be offering a workshop to update the Region 7 counties (encompassing the nine North Bay Area counties) on what has been happening with healthcare reform and to share information about training that the Coalition will be providing to district benefit committees; he noted that these services are being offered free of charge. He reported that he anticipates that the information that will be presented will be beneficial in helping districts understand where they stand and what may happen as a result of passage (or nonpassage) of two bills that are pending on healthcare options during this legislative session.

COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Report

Communications Officer Peggy Marshburn reported that four Board members were planning to attend the Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner tomorrow evening and stated that Dr. Krapf was expected to introduce the first entertainment act and say a few words of welcome to the approximately 500 attendees. Mrs. Marshburn then noted that Mr. Gomes had previously requested information on paperless board packets, and she distributed copies of e-mails that she had received in response to a query she had sent through the California School Public Relations Association' listserv on the pros and cons of their experiences with paperless board packets. She noted that in order to have paperless board packets, the Board members and staff members who attend the meetings would all have to be equipped with laptop computers, which would require a large initial outlay of money to implement. However, she mentioned that most of the respondents represented school districts rather than county offices of education and that she was willing to pursue further research on the Board's behalf upon request. She also stated that while several people responded favorably with regard to the paperless board packets, others felt that it was not working well and was not cost effective. Mr. Borsuk inquired about Webcasting Board meetings over the Internet so that the public can view them at home, and Mrs. Marshburn responded that Webcasting has not been discussed or researched; she has only researched paperless board packets. Mr. Gomes asked if any of the districts stated whether or not they were saving any money by having paperless board packets, and Mrs. Marshburn replied that complete answers with regard to the cost factor have not been received and that districts alluded more to the cost of scanning documents rather than to any other associated costs.

BOARD

Legislative Update

None.

CONSENT ACTIONS

Minutes of September 5, 2007; Temporary County Certificates; Contra Costa County High School Diplomas; and Public Gifts

The Board voted to approve/accept/grant the following Consent Actions: the minutes of the September 5, 2007, Board meeting; Temporary County Certificates; and granting of Contra Costa County High School Diplomas to adult school students CCAS 1-9/19/07, CCAS 2-9/19/07, CCAS 3-9/19/07 and high school student DVHS1 9/19/2007; and the following public gifts, which have been donated to the Contra Costa County Office of Education: \$150.49 from Dr. Bianca Bloom for the Golden Gate Community School Programs; cookbooks (103) from Carmelia L. Taylor to the high schools that have the Contra Costa County ROP Culinary Careers programs (Antioch High School, Deer Valley High School, Marchus School, Monte Vista High School, and Mt. Diablo High School (M/S: Mirabella/Gomes).

CORRESPONDENCE/ EVENTS CALENDAR

Correspondence: None.

Calendar of Events: September 20 – Teacher of the Year Dinner/Awards Ceremony, Hilton Concord; October 10 – California Education Coalition for Healthcare Reform workshop, 10:00 a.m. – noon, CCCOE Board Room; October 11 – Contra Costa Public Information Network meeting, “Using the New Media to Deliver Your Emergency and Crisis Communications”; October 20, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Young Children’s Issues Forum 2007.

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**BOARD REPORTS OF
ACTIVITIES**

No written or oral reports of activities were provided by Board members.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 6:25 p.m. and convened in Closed Session at 6:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Joseph A. Ovick, Ed.D., Ex Officio Secretary
County Board of Education

Copies of all resolutions adopted by the Board are on file in the Office of the Superintendent, Ex Officio Secretary of the Board of Education.

These unadopted minutes are summaries and excerpts from the regular meeting of September 19, 2007, and are subject to amendment and/or correction prior to the approval of the County Board of Education.