

**County Board of Education**  
**Ronald L. Stewart Center**  
**77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, California**  
**February 20, 2008**

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

**Absent:** None.

**Others:** Joseph Ovick, Ray Penning, Michael Bowers, Peggy Marshburn, Bianca Bloom, Lynn Mackey, Launi Holland, Joe Chapot, Ken Lowy, Allan Cacciaroni, and Laura Dorsey Huerta, County Office staff; Student DVHS1-2/20/08 (and family and friends); Student A-2/20/08 and parents; Dan Ocheltree, Liberty Union High School District. A partial list of attendees is on file at the County Office of Education.

**Presiding:** Glenn A. Ruley, 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: Borsuk/Mirabella).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lisa Del'Anno and Sara Schroeder, residents of Walnut Creek, spoke in favor of a potential 10% petition that may be considered by the Contra Costa County Committee on School District Organization.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Interdistrict Attendance Transfer Appeal**

The Board convened in closed hearing at 6:52 p.m. to consider the interdistrict attendance transfer appeal of parents for their child, Student A-2/20/08, from the Antioch Unified School District to the Liberty Union High School District. The Board recessed to closed deliberation at 7:22 p.m. The Board reconvened to closed hearing at 7:46 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 four to one to deny the interdistrict attendance transfer appeal of Student A-2/20/08 based upon CCCOE Board of Education's Administrative Regulation 5200(D)(3.17) (the school district is over its enrollment capacity).

**RECOGNITIONS**

**Granting of Contra Costa County High School Diploma**

The Board voted unanimously to grant a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to high school student DVHS1-2/20/2008 (M/S: Mirabella/Borsuk). Principal Joe Chapot introduced the graduate and teachers Kevin Lowy and Allan Cacciaroni, who each provided some background on the graduate's educational history. Dr. Joseph Ovick, County Superintendent of Schools, and Board President Glenn Ruley presented the graduate with his diploma and conveyed their congratulations.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**SUPERINTENDENT  
Report**

Joseph A. Ovick, Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools, reported that the article he had written for the 32<sup>nd</sup> PTA newsletter regarding the state budget is being requested for republication by other groups before the PTA newsletter has even been published. He shared with the Board that an invitation from Senator Tom Torlakson that had been sent previously to the Board regarding an upcoming teleconference did not include the date or time; however, his staff has resent the invitation with this information included. He then reported the following: at the last superintendents' meetings, a list was compiled of ideas on flexibility with regard to the budget, and the list was hand-delivered to Senator Torlakson by Governmental Consultant Susan Stuart; he then distributed a copy of this list so that the Board would have it prior to the teleconference with Senator Torlakson; he discussed a research study on dropout rates in California that was released today; in scrutinizing the CCCOE's own programs, he found that there were no dropouts indicated during the period covered by the study; he noted that an article will appear in the newspaper tomorrow with regard to dropout rates throughout Contra Costa County; a representative from Insight Schools, a virtual charter school program, will be meeting tomorrow with the superintendent of the John Swett Unified School District and him to discuss the possibility of an online virtual charter school being established in that district or perhaps another district in the county; lastly, he reported that the reduction in public education dollars for next year is now in excess of \$65 million, which is larger than the entire school district budget for the Brentwood Union School District and represents approximately a loss of \$20,000 per classroom statewide.

**BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICES**

**Lease Agreement**

Dr. Joseph Ovick, County Superintendent, introduced this item to the Board, explaining why the program began in advance of the lease agreement. Mrs. Mirabella asked if this involved a new program or an increase to an existing program, and Mr. Penning responded that the rent is the same as it was last year. The Board then voted unanimously to approve the Lease Agreement between the Contra Costa County Board of Education and Antioch Unified School District for an ROP classroom located at Prospects Alternative Education School, 820 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Room #207, Antioch, California (M/S: Gomes/Mirabella).

**Staff Report**

None.

**STUDENT PROGRAMS AND  
SERVICES**

**Staff Report**

Ray Penning, Associate Superintendent, Student Programs and Services, distributed an article that was published in the Merced Sun Star on the CCCOE's In Custody Drug Treatment Program operated in Merced through the contract with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; he noted that this program has been so successful, the state is continuing to fund it in spite of the state's current financial difficulties. Mr. Penning then reported that he met with the Superintendent of the Byron Union School District (BUSD) to discuss the possibility that there would be a large number of interdistrict attendance transfer appeals anticipated from that district since a large number of students from BUSD have been transferring to other districts; however, the superintendent has decided that a more positive approach for their district would be to speak to the value of their current programs to attract students back to Byron rather than take the position of refusing to allow students to transfer out of the district.; as a result, Mr. Penning explained, there may not be as many interdistrict attendance transfer appeals generated from the BUSD as he had anticipated. Lastly, he shared with the Board that the new community school in Brentwood, which will house community school classes, some special education programs, and some offices, should be completed by June; also, rather than being a school comprised of portables, it has been designed as an actual alternative learning center and school; and he stated that the Board would be invited to the grand opening. Mr. Borsuk asked where the school is located, and Mr. Penning responded that it is on Middlefield Court in Brentwood. Mrs. Mirabella asked if staff had read the article on how portables are being recalled, and she asked how this would affect the CCCOE. Mr. Penning stated that the CCCOE does not own any portables of the types that have been recalled.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**Staff Report**

None.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Proposed 2008-2009 Contra Costa  
County Office of Education Staff  
Calendars**

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources Department, presented the proposed 2008-2009 Contra Costa County Office of Education staff calendars for Management/ Confidential and Professional/Administrative, Certificated, and Classified employees. Mr. Borsuk asked if the unions have reviewed and approved these staff calendars, and Mr. Bowers clarified that the calendars are set through the employer and are not considered a negotiable issue with the unions.

**Staff Report**

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources Department, reported the following: the Annual CCCOE Teacher/Certificated Staff Recruitment Fair will take place at Alhambra High School on Saturday, February 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; it is expected to be the largest job fair in recent years because of the potential cutbacks and lay-offs at districts; a huge turnout of teachers is expected because of the uncertainty; he reiterated that the Board members are welcome to attend the event; lastly, he plans to attend the California Education Committee for Health Care Reform meeting next Wednesday in Sacramento at which he will be working with the Education Coalition to examine the feasibility of establishing a single health care pool for all K-14 education in California (AB 256).

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Staff Report**

Communications Officer Peggy Marshburn reported that Contra Costa County has five high school students nominated to receive the governor's Academic Achievement Awards; she noted that this is the first year that these awards have been offered and that the students would be seated at a dinner on March 11 in Sacramento; of all the students chosen statewide to receive an Academic Achievement Award, a team of 25 will be chosen to be part of a Super Team; Mrs. Marshburn plans to attend that dinner on behalf of Dr. Ovick, who is unable to attend; she gave a brief report on this year's Mock Trials; lastly, Communications staffer Diane Morrell and she visited The Making Waves Academy, the CCCOE's charter school in Richmond, and received an overview of the school's operations; she described it as a wonderful and engaging program, and she encouraged Board members to visit for themselves.

**BOARD**

**Legislative Update**

None.

**Board Bylaw 9250**

After a change was suggested with regard to bringing this bylaw up to date in respect to the correct stipend received by Board members (\$441.00 rather than \$400.00), Bylaw 9250, which was presented for second reading and adoption in order to bring the Board members' health benefit coverage in line with that provided to Management/Confidential/Professional Administrative employees, was unanimously adopted, as amended, by the Board (M/S: Mirabella/Gomes).

**CONSENT ACTIONS**

**Minutes of February 6, 2008;  
Contra Costa Adult School  
Diplomas; and a Contra Costa High  
School Diploma**

The Board voted to approve/accept/grant the following Consent Actions: approval of the minutes from the February 6, 2008, Board meeting; approval of applications for Temporary County Certificates; granting of a Contra Costa County Adult School Diploma to adult school students CCAS 1/2-20-08; granting of Contra Costa High School Diplomas to adult school student CCAS 2/2-20-08 and high school student GGCS 1-02/20/2008 (M/S: Mirabella/Borsuk).

**CORRESPONDENCE/  
EVENTS CALENDAR**

**Correspondence:** Invitation dated February 2, 2008, to Board members from Senator Tom Torlakson inviting them to attend a hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Schools and Community on "Career Technical Education in California Schools: Preparing Our Kids for College AND Career" scheduled for February 21 at 2:00 p.m. at Mt. Diablo High School, Multipurpose room, 2450 Grant Street, Concord, CA 94520.

**Calendar of Events:** February 23 – CCCOE 2008 Teacher/Certificated Staff Recruitment Fair, Alhambra High School gymnasium, Martinez; February 28 – 32<sup>nd</sup> District PTA's Founders Day Dinner, Zio Fraedo's, Pleasant Hill; March 7-8 – CCBE Annual Spring Conference, Berkeley.

County Board of Education  
February 20, 2008

**BOARD REPORTS OF  
ACTIVITIES**

No written reports of activities were submitted by Board members. Mr. Gomes reported that, during the past few weeks, he has been responding to e-mails regarding the proposed transfer of territory from Mt. Diablo USD to the Walnut Creek School District and Acalanes Union HSD; and he stated that, in those e-mails, he took no position and has spoken only for himself and not on behalf of the Board. Mrs. Mirabella reported that she plans on attending the Career Tech hearing that Senator Torlakson is hosting on February 21, and she also mentioned that she has received 116 e-mails from parents with regard to the Walnut Creek schools petition and that she appreciated hearing from them; she stated further that she and the other Board members were not commenting on the e-mails because they have not yet seen the petition and are waiting to review it once the signatures have been verified. She also noted that she is reading every single e-mail. Additionally, she reported that she planned to participate as a listener in the conference call scheduled by Senator Torlakson in order to learn of the districts' concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:47 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 February 20, 2008, and are subject to amendment and/or correction prior to the approval of the County Board of Education.