

TRINITY ALPS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

Weaverville Elementary School Library Wednesday, March 11, 2009
31020 State Hwy 3 Closed Session 4:00 p.m., Business Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Weaverville, California

Trinity Alps Unified School District Governing Board:

- Mike Cloud, President - Present
- Galen McCray, Vice President/Clerk - Present
- Bob Simmons - Present
- George Tkach - Present
- Keith Groves - Present

Also Present: Ed Traverso, Superintendent
Michael McAllister, Associate Superintendent/Principal
Cindy Blanchard, Director of Business Services
Dave Ottem, Director of Facilities and Operations

1.0 Formal Opening

- 1.1 Call to Order – **4:03 PM**
- 1.2 Flag Salute – Led by Trustee Cloud
- 1.3 Additions or Changes in Agenda – Mr. Traverso announced we will take Public Comment at 6:00. This information was announced at the public meeting last night, via a flier sent to WES parents, and an automated phone message sent to all parents/guardians of TAUSD students.
- 1.4 Declaration of Recording Devices – One for Open Session.

2.0 ACCEPT CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Motion to accept Closed Session Agenda by Trustee Groves, second by Trustee Tkach. Vote: Unanimous

3.0 CLOSED SESSION

- 3.1 Government Code Section 54957.6
CTA Negotiations
District Negotiators Bill Odell and Ed Traverso
- 3.2 Government Code 54957.6
Negotiations Unrepresented Employees
District Negotiator Ed Traverso

4.0 RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION - 5:19 PM

5.0 REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – Government Code 54957.1(a) (5)

Trustee Cloud reported there was no action taken, and the Board will return to Closed Session after the regular meeting has adjourned.

6.0 ACCEPT OPEN SESSION AGENDA

Motion to accept Open Session Agenda as amended by Trustee Simmons, second by Trustee Tkach. Vote: Unanimous

7.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - See page 3.

- 7.1 Letter from Weaverville Elementary School Teachers and Staff – See page 3.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Trustee Groves, second by Trustee Tkach, the Trinity Alps Unified School District Governing Board approves consent ACTION items:

Trustee McCray moved to pull 8.4 and 8.5 for discussion. Cindy Blanchard gave explanation on 8.4 and Superintendent Traverso and Dave Ottem answered questions on 8.5. Trustee McCray strikes removing the items.

- 8.1 Approval of the Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2009
- 8.2 Approval of the Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2009
- 8.3 Approval of Resolution 089-51 Payroll and General Fund Warrants
- 8.4 Approval of Transfer of Funds – Meals for Needy
- 8.5 Approval of Freezer for Cafeteria

9.0 BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE

9.2 Superintendent's Report – Ed Traverso

Superintendent Traverso gave a report on last night's community meeting held at WES. The same type of meeting will be held tomorrow night at THS at 6:30 PM. This California Budget depends on special election initiatives to be held in May, which were discussed further. He met with classified office staff today regarding streamlining and working together.

9.3 Associate Superintendent/THS Principal's Report – Michael McAllister

Mr. McAllister reported the current enrollment at THS is 98 Freshmen, 85 Sophomores, 104 Juniors and 84 Seniors=371 total. Lions club speech contest last night and Leah Groves won zone and goes to regional. Healthy Kids Survey has been completed and data has gone to TCOE. Construction class has worked with maintenance staff on baseball dugouts and the field. Wrestling championship student Kevin Maelfeyt and Aric Sumner attended State and placed well. The Mock Trial is continuing this month. The AVID field trip is currently visiting colleges around the state. Drama club performance of Much Ado About Nothing begins on March 19th. The FBLA competed in regional championships in Williams and two students will go to State championship.

9.4 WES Principal's Report – Ed Traverso

Mr. Traverso explained he has been filling in as Principal at WES as Ms. Morris is out on medical leave. He met with teaching staff regarding enrollment and staff for the future. He gave teachers the charge to brainstorm among themselves and then meet as a group to fashion a schedule for next year. At that meeting they conducted the drawing to break ties in the seniority list. Trustee McCray also attended the meeting per Superintendent Traverso's request. He also asked the WES staff to bring constructive ideas to the administration and Board.

9.5 Director of Facilities and Operations Report – Dave Ottem

Dave Ottem discussed the Safe Routes to School grant that is available. He has received public comment already and will hold a public meeting next Monday at 6:00 at the WES Library. The deadline is April 15. Staff at both school sites are currently cross training. This will alleviate using substitutes and contribute to a significant savings. His staff has power washed one wing at WES and is preparing for lawn at Alps View campus.

9.6 Approval of Job Description for Principals

Superintendent Traverso asked the Board if they would like any changes to the current job descriptions as we are currently taking applications for both Principal positions. The interview and hiring process was discussed. Trustee McCray suggests amending "supervises and evaluates plant operations" to "in conjunction with the Director of Facilities and Operations".

Motion to approve as amended by Trustee Groves, second by Trustee Simmons. Motion carried unanimously.

10.0 INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTIONS**10.1 Summer School**

Superintendent Traverso recommends no summer school this year due to funding issues as we would have to use general fund dollars. Credit recovery/independent study is available to make up needed credits during the school year. Ms. Blanchard reported the daily rate for teacher last year was around \$16,000-\$18,000 for both schools, which falls under the next year's funding cycle. Mindy Bentley explained food programs are required for summer school, which costs us about \$5,000. Staff at high school last year was 2.5 FTE per Mr. McAllister. The Board directed Superintendent Traverso to get an historical headcount of students and bring this back in May for action.

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT: - 6:00 PM

Trustee Cloud explained that we postponed this section for public comment. He then read the public comment script. The following members of the audience voiced their concerns about the layoff of the current P.E. teacher and voiced their support of the current P.E. program and teacher: Former WES teachers John McClurg, Doreen McClurg and Chris Althof; current WES teachers Christy Ravenscroft, Diana Frink, Lisa Mey, Susan Cousins, Kathy Larson and Kathleen Graham; current THS teacher Ernest Jones; community members Stacy and her daughter, who presented the Board with a book she made in support of the P.E. program, Sandy and Dave Holliday, Tom, Jessie Dunham, Gail Harwood, and Ken Hill.

Trustee Cloud states we are all on the same team and this is also the Board and administrations' community.

7.1 Letter from Weaverville Elementary School Teachers and Staff

Christy Ravenscroft read the letter from the teachers to the Board and administration. Mr. Traverso read a letter from Joanne Harper that was delivered to the Board at the meeting. The Board thanked the audience for attending. Trustee Cloud motioned to take a break. **7:00 PM**

Return from break and resume Instructional Functions at 7:10 PM.**10.2 Second Reading: Instruction**

Administrative Regulation 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

Superintendent Traverso recommended tabling this item again. It will be ready for the next meeting.

10.3 Approval to Pursue CDE State Waiver to Education Code 46600 Regarding Inter-District Attendance
Superintendent Traverso explained the intent of this waiver.

Trustee Groves moved to not approve pursuing the waiver, second by Trustee Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

10.4 Inter-District Attendance Between TAUSD and Douglas City School

Superintendent Traverso explained that this is to inform the Board as he has already approved these requests.

10.5 Approval of Inter-District Attendance Request between TAUSD and Northern Humboldt Union High School District

MSC Trustees Groves/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously

10.6 ROP Report – Trustee Simmons

No report as Trustee Simmons was out of town during last meeting. Mr. Traverso noted our ROP bylaws state ROP funds cannot be flexed (used somewhere else).

11.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL**11.1 Director of Business Services Report – Cindy Blanchard**

Ms. Blanchard reported we have currently received approximately 80% of our Forest Reserves. She clarifies that 08-09 Forest Reserves were declared as reserves for next year. Next year we plan on spending what we

11.1 CONTINUED

enough to cover programs as per the cuts we are making this year. Next year's Forest Reserves we expect to hold so we will not have to borrow money. Budget and cash flow are really two issues. State is deferring payments, such as apportionments, at this time. Superintendent Traverso gave kudos to Ms. Blanchard for her planning ahead and good budgeting.

11.2 Approval of Second Interim Financial Report for the 2008-2009 School Year

Ms. Blanchard explained after working 7 months without a State budget we have recently found out that we will incur categorical cuts of 15.4% for the current year. Next year we anticipate another 4.4% cut in categorical programs for roughly a 20% reduction in those funds. We do not know what we will get from the federal stimulus package, which can take up to three years to allocate. We are currently at 52% free and reduced meals, which may help us to receive funding. She passed out a cash flow and criteria and standards handout. The District is looking at how to save any funds possible and has had this conversation with classified staff yesterday regarding 2 retirees who will not be replaced, as well as looking at the athletic program. Multi Year unrestricted and restricted projections were discussed.

MSC Trustees Groves/McCray. Motion carried unanimously.

11.3 Public Disclosure of the Bargaining Agreement between the Trinity Alps Unified School District and the Trinity Alps Unified Teachers Association/CTA/NEA

Superintendent Traverso explained this is to disclose the cost before ratifying the bargaining agreement. TCOE has reviewed and approved. Correction to page 1 of 8 Summary Agreement Section 2 re opener years 2010-2011 to be changed from no to yes.

11.4 Ratify the Bargaining Agreement between the Trinity Alps Unified School District and the Trinity Alps Unified Teachers Association/CTA/NEA

Superintendent Traverso recommends approval.

Motion to approve by Trustee McCray, second by Trustee Tkach. Discussion – Trustee Cloud commented that laying off teachers and giving a raise to teachers at the same time does not sit well with him. Trustee Simmons opposes the motion. Motion carried.

11.5 **Public Hearing** Regarding Revised Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Plan

Dave Ottem reported as a newly unified school district we had to complete a new five year deferred maintenance plan to the State. He explained the worksheets that were also included.

Open Hearing 8:45

Close Hearing 8:46

11.6 Approval of Resolution 089-52 Deferred Maintenance Five Year Plan

MSC Trustees Groves/McCray. Motion carried unanimously.

11.7 Approval of Resolution 089-53 to Participate in the California School Cash Reserve Program Sponsored by the California School Boards Association Finance Corporation Regarding Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS)

Superintendent Traverso explained this does not obligate us to borrow the money. Ms. Blanchard explained you have to pay this back in 5 months as it is just for short term cash flow problems

MSC Trustees Groves/Tkach. Discussion per Trustee McCray. Motion by Trustee Groves to amend with stipulation “any transaction needs Board approval”, second by Trustee Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

11.8 Approval of CSEA Contract Page Regarding Provisions Pertaining to Bus Drivers

Mr. Traverso explained this was brought back from last month.

MSC Trustees Tkach/McCray. Motion carried unanimously.

11.9 Approval of Cash Donation to the WES Jazz Band Field Trip to Reno
MSC Trustees Groves/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

11.10 Approval of Resolution 089-54 Authorization to Sign Orders Drawn on the Funds of TAUSD
MSC Trustees Groves/Simmons. Motion carried unanimously.

11.11 Approval to Pursue CDE State Waiver to Education Code 45121 Regarding Classified Employees
Superintendent Traverso explained the waiver.
MSC Trustees Simmons/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

11.12 Approval of Agricultural Salary Schedule
After discussion we will approve as is but during openers in 2010-11 we should rework this into a stipend tied to teachers salary schedule.
MSC Trustees Groves/McCray. Motion carried unanimously.

11.13 Approval of Counselor Salary Schedule
Superintendent Traverso recommends tabling this item until he has further information.

12.0 PERSONNEL

12.1 Approval of Resolution 089-55 Personnel Services-Substitutes, Volunteers, Retirements
MSC Trustees Simmons/Groves. Motion carried unanimously.

12.2 Second Reading: Classified Unrepresented
Board Policy 4318 - Employee Discipline

Mr. Traverso explained this is an unrepresented unit which could be subject to drug testing if there is reasonable suspicion due to behavior and/or physical symptoms. We will bring this back next month as an action item.

13.0 ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

Athletic costs from Superintendent Traverso and Ms. Blanchard.

14.0 BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Groves: Thanked teachers and staff who stayed for the entire meeting to hear the budget explanations.

Trustee Tkach: Ditto. This is not forever and better times will come around again. All employees are valued.

Trustee Simmons: He commends Athletic Director Kathleen Lynch for an excellent job this year.

Trustee McCray: Request Ms. Blanchard make a fiscal presentation with pie charts and graphs for the public regarding cash flow and budget.

Trustee Cloud: Echoes Mr. Simmons comments on Kathleen Lynch. He feels both sites have an excellent staff. He is disgusted with the State Legislators.

Superintendent Traverso invited Board members to the community meeting tomorrow at THS.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION/RETURN TO CLOSED SESSION – 9:34 PM

16.0 RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION/REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – 10:10 PM

No action taken.

17.0 ADJOURNMENT – 10:11 PM