

# TRINITY ALPS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

**Weaverville Elementary School Library ..... Wednesday, November 11, 2009**  
**31020 State Hwy 3 ..... Business Meeting 6:00 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  
Debra Robison, Principal  
Scott Payne, Principal  
Cindy Blanchard, Director of Business Services

### **1.0 Formal Opening**

1.1 Call to Order – **6:00 PM**

1.2 Flag Salute – Led by Trustee Cloud

1.3 Additions or Changes in Agenda – Superintendent Traverso to add Consent Agenda Item 4.3 budget transfer request. Also a request to move Item 6.7 was made but the person making the request is not here yet so the request is withdrawn by Trustee McCray.

1.4 Declaration of Recording Devices – One

### **2.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON OPEN SESSION AGENDA**

Diana Frink, WES teacher, would like the Board to consider the high level of service currently offered to our Special Ed students when they look at possibly taking on the program next year.

### **3.0 ACCEPT OPEN SESSION AGENDA**

Motion to accept as amended by Trustee Groves, Second by Trustee Simmons. Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain

### **4.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

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

4.1 Approval of the Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2009

4.2 Approval of Resolution 910-13 Payroll and General Fund Warrants

Added Item 4.3 Approval of Budget Transfer Request

### **5.0 BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE**

5.1 Superintendent’s Report – Ed Traverso

Superintendent Traverso went over the budget outlook from the State, which now has a 7.4 billion dollar gap due to shortfall of revenue coming in. We are continuing to look at ways to curtail spending, which he elaborated on. CDS has 4 grade 9-12 students, 2 grade K-8 students and Alps View has 16 students.

5.2 THS Principal’s Report – Debra Robison

Principal Robison passed out minutes from the LCC September meeting, which includes strategies regarding Healthy Kids Survey results. Working hard at THS to keep positive and keep up on the work. Football is over,

we are the champions! HRN is providing tobacco education on Wednesdays at the high school. Blood drive on Friday put on by Student Body. We currently have 2 new exchange students and a new girl from Red Bluff. History articulation meetings have been held and Mr. Ferguson presented strategies for writing. November 19th will be the next meeting.

5.3 WES Principal's Report – Scott Payne

Principal Payne reported: This is Red Ribbon week, 8<sup>th</sup> grade spaghetti feed raised about \$1400. He went over last week school events. Odyssey of the mind program is being looked at. Report cards on November 20. Girls Basketball has begun. Trustee Groves asked if WES could include the Board meeting on their website and marquee. He also discussed how feeder schools have started an internet based algebra program through Glenn County, which may expand to include Spanish next year. He suggests in future maybe WES could provide this type of service to our feeder schools. Principal Payne will look into it further. Trustee Simmons requests Mr. Harris work at hiring local referees.

5.4 Director of Facilities and Operations Report – Dave Ottem

No report as Mr. Ottem is on vacation.

5.5 Cafeteria Report-Mindy Bentley

Superintendent Traverso explained that he requested a report on cost savings due to last year's purchase of a freezer and other ideas from Mindy. The cafeteria encroaches on the general fund, which we would like to reduce. Mindy gave a breakdown on products she has looked at and recently purchased for the elementary school children. She explained the food commodity co-op, Ed Jones Company. They can set up a whole program for us, and we would have to join in December to participate next year. Superintendent Traverso states we are also looking at S&L from Chico. He explained that he has been allowing an additional 3 hours for cafeteria employees and he will bring this back to the Board at another time.

5.6 THS Student Representative Report – Jerad Harris

Superintendent Traverso reported that Jerad could not make the meeting but he was surveying students regarding memorials. Also, the Student Body run student store is well received and being run well. Trustee McCray recommends that Jerad have a back up student to report for him in the future.

5.7 ROP Report – Trustee Simmons

There has not been a meeting in the last month, but Anderson and Gateway are not going to pull out of the JPA and will stay with ROP. ROP is considering having a superintendent's meeting 2-3 times per year.

5.8 Appoint District ROP Representative Effective December 2009

After discussion Trustee Tkach moved to appoint Steve Hagen, with his approval, Second by Trustee Simmons. Motion carried. Vote: 4 Ayes, Trustee McCray Nay.

5.9 Agriculture Advisory Committee Report

No Report: Trustee Simmons explained they have not met since the County Fair.

5.10 WES Site Council Report

Principal Payne reported the first meeting was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and they have two parent seat openings. Ms. Blanchard was there to give a budget report and he gave an API/AYP presentation.

5.11 THS Site Council Report

Caroline Bishop reported they met and they have about 12 members. They are looking at the following: Accountability Report; how to make parent student surveys useful; how to tackle the chewing tobacco issues; off-campus lunch passes and how to know which children are leaving; follow up to Challenge Day; rewrite

student handbook regarding gum and cell phone use. They meet next in January.

5.12 WES Boosters Club Report

Principal Payne reported the following: They meet last week and have 15-16 parents who are very involved; Golden Gate fundraiser; hallway game with library book awards; student of the month award stickers; hosting Jim Valley presentation in January.

5.13 THS Boosters Club Report

No report.

5.14 CSEA Representative Report

No report.

5.15 CTA Representative Report

A letter was handed out from Mike Flint. Superintendent Traverso met with him last week responding to the 5 issues he brought up. Christy Ravenscroft noted some WES teachers (not CTA) have put together a letter to Board members only and wanted to be sure they had received it.

5.16 Memorials on School Grounds-Administration Recommendations

Superintendent Traverso passed out pictures he took of memorials currently around the high school and explained where they are, which is all over the campus. They are all relatively small except for the drinking fountains. If we have a policy we could specify an area and a type of memorial. He asked for direction from the Board. He recommends either no policy and handle each memorial individually, or create a policy restricting them to a specific area. The Board directed Superintendent Traverso to sketch out guidelines and policy to include designating a small area and a monument/rock holding a plaque which names can be added onto as well as plaque size parameters to be brought back to our next meeting.

5.17 Approve Proposed Placement of Memorial Sign at THS Baseball Field

After discussion the item died for lack of a motion.

5.18 Approval of Resolution 910-14 Designation of Official Representative and Alternate Representative to the Shasta-Trinity Schools Insurance Group Joint Powers Authority

MSC Trustees McCray/Groves. Motion carried unanimously.

5.19 Parent/Guardian Media Release-Passive Consent Form

Superintendent Traverso wanted the Board to see what we have developed per the Board's request.

**6.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL**

6.1 Director of Business Services Report – Cindy Blanchard

Ms. Blanchard reported we are working with State auditors and expect the audit to be final for the December meeting, as well as the first interim budget report. The ESCAPE accounting system owner came up last week and hosted a meeting. Attendance and use of prior years' ADA for revenue limits was discussed. We are working on gathering information from County Office regarding SELPA costs to analyze those numbers. Superintendent Traverso will give an initial SELPA report in December or January. We are currently looking at an \$800,000 deficit.

6.2 Approval of Program Improvement Specialized Grant-Agriculture

Superintendent Traverso explained this is a specialized grant we applied for last year, which the State did not honor due to the budget, but they are accepting grant proposals again. There are funds in Ag to make the match. MSC Trustees Simmons/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

### 6.3 November & December Fundraising Calendar and Fundraising Requests

Trustee McCray wants the requests to complete the form and explain WHY they are fundraising.

### 6.4 Approval to Contract with Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) for Management and Technical Assistance

Superintendent Traverso recommends we postpone moving forward with the FCMAT study, although it would be beneficial in the future to help layout a five year plan. We will bring this back in January.

### 6.5 Approval of Transportation Charge per Mile for "Other" School Trips

Superintendent Traverso explained how he priced-out cost of bus. He recommends charging actual costs for each trip. Kathleen Lynch asked if the person driving changes the cost of trips ~ Answer was yes.

Trustee Groves moved to charge actual variable costs for school trips, Second by Trustee Tkach. Vote: Trustees Simmons and Cloud, Nay; Trustees McCray, Groves and Tkach, Aye. Motion carried.

### 6.6 Approval of Proposal to Provide Professional Inventory Services to TAUSD by AssetWorks, Inc.

Ms. Blanchard explained we had audit findings on our inventory list in the past. Maximus sold their inventory work to AssetWorks for capital assets. Our auditors recommend this and Principal Robison endorsed the program. They bar code everything for us and then we can keep up on it in the future.

Motion to approve by Trustees Simmons, Second by Trustee Tkach. Vote: Trustees Groves and McCray, Nay; Trustees Cloud, Simmons, Tkach, Aye. Motion carried.

### 6.7 Early Retirement Incentives for Certificated and Classified Staff

Superintendent Traverso explained that the District has to show it will have a savings in the group of retirees over time. The District pays the entire cost of buying the two years of service credit. It must be offered for a designated "window" period of time, classified differs from certificated, and we have to offer it to everyone. Four-five teachers have expressed interest. Superintendent Traverso's recommendation is to let staff know we need commitments by January and once there are committed individuals we can open the window, which is the period they have to actually retire. The District would rather lose staff through attrition than layoff, which is imminent. This item is tabled until the January meeting to receive commitment from staff.

## **7.0 INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTIONS**

### 7.1 Approval of Revised THS Class Schedule

Principal Robison explained the schedule changes. This item is tabled as the handout is not available tonight.

### 7.2 Approval of Revised THS Coaches Handbook

Motion to approve by Trustees Groves, Second by Trustee Simmons. Discussion by Trustee Tkach to include transportation fees on page 17. Trustee Groves moved to approve as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

### 7.3 Ratify Inter-District Transfer from THS to Eureka Community School

MSC Trustees Groves/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

### 7.4 Ratify Inter-District Transfer from WES to DCS

MSC Trustees Tkach/Groves. Motion carried unanimously.

### 7.5 Approval of Overnight Field Trips for the 2009-10 School Year

This item is tabled until December as it was incorrectly listed as a discussion/info item.

## **8.0 PERSONNEL**

### 8.1 Approval of Resolution 910-14 Personnel Services

Traverso went over the list on the resolution. Next month we will have cafeteria on here.

MSC Trustees McCray/Tkach. Motion carried unanimously.

**9.0 ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Ms. Terry Duncan requested the Board's permission to use the high school gymnasium to host a dance fundraiser for Santi Pierini-Reese on December 17<sup>th</sup>. She was instructed to go to the high school and talk with Principal Robison.

Bring back those we have tabled. It will be the organizational meeting.

**10.0 BOARD COMMENTS**

Trustee Groves: Thanked Bob Simmons for 16 years of Board service and said it has been a pleasure working with him and Galen McCray. He thanked everyone for coming tonight.

Trustee Simmons: Said it's been fun at times and not fun at times! He will miss the Board.

Trustee Tkach thanked everyone for showing up and assured the audience they will look closely at SELPA.

Trustee Cloud asked Ms. Ravenscroft how the teachers will facilitate the letter sent to Board members. The Board explained they could only discuss the letter with teachers at an open Board meeting or they could form an ad hoc committee. He also thanked Bob and said it was a pleasure working with him.

The Board then appointed Trustees Groves and Tkach to the ad hoc committee (Trustee Groves as chairman).

**11.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

None

**12.0 ACCEPT CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

Motion by Trustee Groves, Second by Trustee Tkach. Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain

**13.0 CLOSED SESSION – 8:40 PM**

13.1 Government Code Section 54957.6  
Regarding CTA and CSEA

District Negotiator Ed Traverso

13.2 Government Code Section 54957

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

**14.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 9:27 PM**

**15.0 REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

No report as there was no action taken.

**16.0 ADJOURNMENT – 9:28 PM**