

**TRINITY ALPS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES**

**Weaverville Elementary School Library ..... Wednesday, February 8, 2012**  
**31020 State Hwy 3 ..... Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.**  
**Weaverville, California .....**

Trinity Alps Unified School District Governing Board:

- Keith Groves, President - Present
- George Tkach, Vice President/Clerk - Present
- Steve Hagen - Present
- Sadie Fagan - Present
- Wendy Cloud – Present

Also Present: Ed Traverso, Superintendent  
Cindy Blanchard, Director of Business Services  
Tom Barnett, Associate Superintendent/THS Principal  
Keith Sprague, WES Principal  
Dave Ottem, Director of Facilities and Operations

**1.0 Formal Opening**

- 1.1 Call to Order – **6:00 PM**
- 1.2 Flag Salute – Led by Trustee Groves
- 1.3 Additions or Changes in Agenda - None

**2.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON OPEN SESSION AGENDA - None**

**3.0 ACCEPT OPEN SESSION AGENDA**

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

**4.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

Corrections to minutes of January 11 by Superintendent Traverso: Change the staff of the “quarter” to the staff of the “semester”; a correction should be made to his report regarding possible changes to STRS and PERS due to pension reform, strike the words “in half”. Mr. Traverso noted in his report of January 25<sup>th</sup> regarding cut in transportation funds equaling \$370 per ADA that he should have reported these are what the cuts would be if the tax initiative does not pass.

Motion to approve the Minutes of January 11<sup>th</sup> and January 25<sup>th</sup> as amended Trustee Hagen, Second by Trustee Fagan, the Trinity Alps Unified School District Governing Board approves consent ACTION items:

- 4.1 Approval of the Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2012
- 4.2 Approval of the Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2012
- 4.3 Approval of Resolution 1112-23 Payroll and General Fund Warrants
- 4.4 February Fundraising Calendar
- 4.5 Approval of Annual Certification Regarding Workers’ Compensation (EC 42141)
- 4.6 Ratify CalState TEACH Agreement between California State University Teacher Preparation Program and TAUSD

**5.0 PRESENTATIONS**

**5.1 Human Response Network Prevention Squad**

Victoria Pourian, Amber Hatter, Bella Hedtke, Stephanie Glenn and Leslie Mounivoug explained the club goals and their valentine activities to promote healthy relationships. They will be going to Boston, Massachusetts where the Prevention Squad program originated to learn about participatory research, etc. Trustee Fagan

requested them to return and give us a report once they are back.

## **6.0 INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION**

6.1 Public Comment Opportunity – District Proposed Calendar for the 2012-13 School Year

### **Open Public Comment 6:10 PM**

President Groves read a letter that the Board received from Roger and Nancy Brown expressing appreciation of the 2011-12 holiday schedule, which they hope will be continued next year.

Mr. Traverso reported that he has not received a proposal from either union. Ms. Blanchard reported there is a local rule requiring staff to work 5 days during a month to be paid for that month. She is currently working with TCOE on a revision to this rule.

### **Close Public Comment 6:12 PM**

6.2 Second Reading - Revise Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6146.1

High School Graduation Requirements-Starting with Class of 2013 to Give CTE Option for Foreign Language or VAPA Requirement

MSC Trustees Hagen/Tkach: Vote; 4 Ayes, President Groves-Nay, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

## **7.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL**

7.1 Director of Business Services Report – Cindy Blanchard

Ms. Blanchard reported we received 43% of our revenue limit in January but it wasn't posted in time to be on her report (\$900,000). This is the first money we have received from the State since the end of September. Forest Reserves are traditionally received in January but are not in the coffers yet (\$759,000 is anticipated). Cash flow is held at the Trinity County treasury. The interest payment was held up due to a disagreement between the Auditor and Treasurer, but we just received about \$7,000 for the first quarter. She explained the cafeteria account, which the district has been contributing to.

7.2 Annual Adjustment to Bid Threshold for Contracts Awarded by School Districts

Mr. Traverso explained that this is the annual adjusted bid threshold (over \$81,000) for supplies, etc. It does not include construction, which requires a bid on anything over \$15,000.

7.3 Annual Adjustment to Liability Limit of Parent or Guardian for Willful Pupil Misconduct

Mr. Traverso explained that this is also an annual adjustment.

7.4 Review Board Policy 3290 – Business and Non-instructional Operations - Gifts Grants & Bequests

Mr. Traverso brought this to the Board because it may be a timely topic with parents wishing to help fund programs within the school district.

7.5 Approval of Independent Audit Services Proposal from Matson & Isom June 30, 2012 through 2014

Mr. Traverso explained we have not been satisfied with our prior audit service. He recommends approval. Motion to approve by Trustee Cloud, Second by Trustee Fagan: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

## **8.0 BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE**

8.1 Approval of Resolution 1112-24 Reducing Certain Certificated Services for the 2012-13 School Year (Reduction in Employment of Certificated Employees, Layoff of Certificated Employees)

Mr. Traverso discussed reducing certificated staff by 3 FTE. Our situation is that we may need some concessions from the union as well as some layoffs. We need to meet with the union. Meantime we will send out between 3 to 6 layoff notices due to possible bumping rights of staff and depending upon any concessions that may be made. There was discussion about the Governor's proposed tax initiative and the current transportation cuts. Mr. Traverso noted that this is the preliminary layoff notice point which allows employees time to request a hearing. We also offer a layoff agreement that includes the district paying the insurance cap

through September. We currently have one teacher per 20.8 students. With the layoffs we will have one teacher per 20.26 students due to declining ADA, which we anticipate to be 130 less students next year.

Motion to approve by Trustees Hagen, Second by Trustee Tkach: Vote 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

8.2 Approval of Resolution 1112-25 Regarding Reduction or Elimination of Classified Services (Layoff of Classified Employees)

Mr. Traverso recommends layoff of 5 regular and 5 special ed. mild-moderate para-educators due to some possible bumping rights. He also recommends the layoff of 2 temporary kitchen positions that were hired for this year only. Currently we have a total of 13 special education aides; 9 are moderate-severe. Annie Steele voiced her support for the right to have a union. CSEA has until April 15 to respond.

Motion to approve by Trustee Tkach, Second by Trustee Fagan: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

8.3 Approval of CDE Waiver-Request for Allowance of Attendance because of Emergency Condition

This will allow our day off for power outage to be waived, allowing us to have one snow day on the calendar.

MSC Trustees Fagan/Cloud: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

8.4 Public Comment Opportunity - Contract Opener Proposal from TAUSD to CSEA Chapter 578

Joanne Harper states the classroom teacher to student ratio does not reflect what she sees in the classroom.

There was much discussion. Ms. Steele appreciates the classified and certificated staff at WES for pulling together, although she feels the elementary school is sometimes forgotten. Trustee Hagen disputed WES being forgotten. Trustee Fagan commended the WES staff for pulling together after prior difficulties.

8.5 Public Comment Opportunity – Contract Opener Proposal from TAUSD to Trinity Alps Unified Teachers Association/CTA/NEA

See above.

8.6 Approval of District Comprehensive School Safety Plan Revisions

Mr. Traverso explained the state now requires one plan for the entire district and that is what we have done.

MSC Trustees Hagen/Fagan: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

8.7 Superintendent's Report – Ed Traverso

Mr. Traverso reported: Governor Brown's pension reform plan has changes to employee contributions (must equal half of what is paid into the plan). Currently PERS has employers paying 2% more than employees; the revenue limit adjustment proposal regarding transportation cuts was discussed; he will be attending an administrator training at SCOE; he suggested taking the organization reports off of the agenda, excluding the CSEA and CTA reports and asked the Board for their recommendation. The Board consensus is to leave them on the agenda but make it clear that they are not obligated to report. Mr. Traverso will work something up and bring it back to the board; he is looking for 2 Board members to volunteer to meet with both boosters clubs regarding coordinating fundraising activities with the district. Trustees Fagan and Cloud volunteered and are both available at 5:00 PM. We will contact boosters to schedule a meeting.

8.8 THS Principal's Report – Tom Barnett

Mr. Barnett began with his Associate Superintendent report on the middle school ideas that are being worked on (Trinity Preparatory Academy): He gave a power point presentation with THS staffing numbers for next year; academic core mornings-staying with one teacher for a couple of blocks; Spring Board math program and enrichment classes in the afternoon, including targeted interventions, giving students elective choices; possibly bring 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to the high school campus a period or two a week. Principal Report: He will be going to classes explaining staffing cuts will not cause a reduction to our AP course offerings and we will not limit the number of AP classes a student can take; 9 students will participate in the Lions Club Speech Contest next week at the TCOE.

8.9 WES Principal's Report – Keith Sprague

Mr. Sprague reported: He met with a 7<sup>th</sup> grade class to brainstorm the middle school concept and the students were very excited-parent meetings also yielded the same response; working with facilitator, Paul Jones, but they are having a problem with Data Director program; results from a survey administered earlier in the year will be presented at the next Board meeting; he thanked the staff at each school; donations from the “empty bowl” potluck held last week have been taken to the Douglas City Soup Kitchen.

8.10 Director of Facilities and Operations Report – Dave Ottem

No report tonight.

8.11 Director of Food Services Report – Ellen Eggers

Ms. Eggers reported she put bread and milk out to bid and has now received a much better deal; the lunch charge issue is being resolved as a result of letters mailed home to parents.

8.12 Director of Transportation Report – Glen Brown

No report.

8.13 ROP Report – Trustee Hagen

Trustee Hagen reported that we are the only ones that have moved forward with including CTE units as part of our VAPA graduation requirements.

8.14 Agriculture Advisory Committee Report - None

8.15 WES Site Council Report

Mr. Sprague reported the Single Plan was approved today.

8.16 THS Site Council Report

Mr. Barnett reported that the meeting was cancelled.

8.17 WES Boosters Club Report - None

8.18 THS Boosters Club Report

Kathleen Lynch reported that THS Boosters have agreed to help with the high jump pit equipment.

8.19 CSEA Representative Report

Annie Steele reported for Luke, who is watching his kids play basketball.

8.20 CTA Representative Report

Dave Newton reported that they are listening to the Board and administration and are polling staff at this time. He wants the Board to know they are working hard on contract proposals and will meet on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**9.0 ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING - None**

**10.0 BOARD COMMENTS**

Trustee Cloud: These are hard times and she appreciates the work of the staff.

Trustee Fagan: She would like union reps to understand that most schools in the county are going to the 175 school year calendar and she believes it is more equitable for staff.

Trustee Hagen: He hopes to keep as many people working as possible and thanked the staff. He also thanked Kathleen Lynch for attending the ROP meeting.

Trustee Tkach: He likes the idea of the middle school as it is consistent with the reasons for unification. He does not think being in Program Improvement is a true reality of what is going on at the school.

**11.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA – None**

**12.0 ACCEPT CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

Motion to accept the closed session agenda by Trustee Tkach, Second by Trustee Hagen: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

Trustee Groves called a 5 minute break at 7:56 PM

**13.0 CLOSED SESSION – 8:01 PM**

- 13.1 Government Code Section 54957  
Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- 13.2 Government Code Section 54957.6  
Conference with Labor Negotiator-Ed Traverso
- 13.3 Approval of Resolution 1112-26 Personnel Services

**14.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 8:25 PM**

**15.0 REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Trustee Groves reported out on the following Closed Session Items:

- Item 13.1 Motion to non-reelect probationary employee by Trustee Tkach, Second by Trustee Hagen: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.
- Item 13.2 No reportable action taken.
- Item 13.3 Motion by Trustee Fagan to approve Resolution 1112-26 as amended adding Dan Harris as JV Track Coach, Ed Traverso as Varsity Baseball Coach and Bob Cunningham as Varsity Track Coach, Second by Trustee Cloud: Vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

**16.0 ADJOURNMENT – 8:27 PM**