

**FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA
GOVERNING BOARD STUDY SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER IN OPEN
SESSION**

A study session/regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District was held in Conference Room #108, at the District Administrative Center, 2490 Hilborn Road, Fairfield, California, on Thursday, August 8, 2013.

The Governing Board convened in Open Session at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**

Motion was made by Mr. Gaut, seconded by Mrs. Marianno and carried unanimously, to approve adoption of the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON STUDY
SESSION**

There were no public comments.

**STUDY SESSION: GOVERNANCE
WORKSHOP**

President Polk began a discussion regarding the Board's self-evaluation. He stated that the Board's self-evaluation is governed by bylaws and protocols. Mr. Polk sent to each Board member a self-evaluation rating form electronically. He created a rating system which consisted of the numbers 1-5. The rating system was as follows: *always* a rating of 5; *often* a rating of 4; *rarely* a rating of 3; *unsure* a rating of 2; and *never* a rating of 1. Once the survey had been completed, an average of the ratings was taken of the seven board members that participated. The results of the survey were as follows:

1. Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students- 4.83
2. Communicate a common vision- 3.17
3. Operate openly, with trust and integrity- 4.00
4. Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect- 4.67
5. Govern within board-adopted policies and procedures- 4.67
6. Take collective responsibility for the board's performance- 4.50
7. Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness- 4.00
8. Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform board deliberations- 4.00
9. Involve community parents, students, and staff in developing a common vision for the district focused on student learning and achievement and responsive to the needs of all students- 3.17
10. Adopt, evaluate, and update policies consistent with the law and the district's vision and goals- 4.67
11. Maintain accountability for student learning by adopting the district curriculum and monitoring student progress- 4.67
12. Hire and support the superintendent so that the vision, goals, and policies of the district can be implemented- 4.67

STUDY SESSION
(continued)

13. Conduct regular and timely evaluations of the superintendent based on the vision, goals, and performance of the district, and ensure that the superintendent holds district personnel accountable- 4.50
14. Adopt a fiscally responsible budget based on the district's vision and goals, and regularly monitor the fiscal health of the district- 4.67
15. Ensure that a safe and appropriate educational environment is provided to all students- 3.83
16. Establish a framework for the district's collective bargaining process and adopt responsible agreements- 4.33
17. Provide community leadership on educational issues and advocate on behalf of students and public education at the local, state, and federal levels- 3.83

The Board discussed the electronic format of the Board Self-Evaluation form and found it easy to complete. Several Board members agreed that the survey should be taken again at a later date.

Mr. Silva stated that he believes that the District has lost students to other schools because of sports.

When discussing Board Self-Evaluation item #5, Mr. Polk stressed that the Board needs to be very cautious about information that comes to them that is confidential. Adding that there were occasions where there was a confidentiality breach.

In discussing Board Self-Evaluation item #6, Mr. Polk stated that when not in attendance at a Board meeting, a Board member should let staff know when he or she will not be present.

Ms. Shamansky would like to see the Board Self-Evaluation form revised.

With regard to Board Self-Evaluation item #8, Mr. Polk stated that we have a diverse community and that we have the opportunity to have a diverse Board.

When discussing Board Self-Evaluation item #10, Mrs. Honeychurch stated that she believes that the Board did very well with revising the board policies.

Kris Corey, Superintendent, stated that the District is becoming very well known for its many professional development opportunities. According to Ms. Corey, many districts have cut professional development. She thanked the Board for making this a priority.

In discussing Board Self-Evaluation item #15, Ms. Hsu, Student Board Member, stated that she feels safe in her environment while at school.

STUDY SESSION
(continued)

Ms. Shamansky stated that the Governance Team could better connect with the community so that the District can gain the support that it needs from our local businesses. The idea of a community survey was discussed.

Mrs. Honeychurch expressed that she would like the District to conduct a survey within the community.

The Study Session adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

RECESS AND RECONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss:

- Public employment
 - Grant Writer/Community Relations Coordinator
 - Coordinator of Human Resources
 - Coordinator of Secondary Education
 - Principal, Kl Jones Elementary School
 - Assistant Principal, Armijo High School
- Conference with labor negotiators regarding the District and the Fairfield-Suisun Unified Teachers Association (FSUTA)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:53 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Polk called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Superintendent Kris Corey reported that during Closed Session the Board:

By unanimous vote, took action to appoint:

- Stacey Burke as Grant/Writer/Community Relations Coordinator, effective immediately.
- Hattie Kogami, Coordinator of Human Resources, effective September 3, 2013.
- Dino Battaglini, Coordinator of Secondary Education, effective August 12, 2013.
- Mickie (Rebecca) Giacomini, Principal of Kl Jones Elementary, effective August 26, 2013.
- Sheila Cochenour Smith, Assistant Principal, Armijo High School, effective August 26, 2013.

ROLL CALL

Members in attendance: Dave Gaut, Judi Honeychurch, David C. Isom, Kathy Marianno, Perry W. Polk, Pat Shamansky, John Silva, Kristin Hsu, and Kris Corey, Superintendent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Polk called upon the new administrators to lead those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

RECOGNITIONS

There were no recognitions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In her report, Superintendent Kris Corey stated that the District is looking forward to a great school year. She added that we

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
(continued)

were able to provide many professional development opportunities this year, and that the District is becoming well known as a District that provides great staff development. She also discussed the importance of traffic safety, especially on the first day of school.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT
CALENDAR**

**

Motion was made by Mr. Isom, seconded by Mrs. Honeychurch and carried unanimously, to approve the following Consent Calendar items:

1. approval of out-of-state travel request for David Weir Preparatory Academy staff to attend the 3rd Annual No Excuses University (NEU) National Conference in San Antonio, Texas, from October 6 through October 9, 2013
2. surplus property and authorization to dispose of property pursuant to education code §§ 17545-17546
3. personnel action report 1314-2a (certificated hires, leaves, retirements, and resignations)
4. personnel action report 1314-2b (classified hires, leaves, retirements, and resignations)
5. approval of the minutes of the governing board study session/regular meeting held on June 27, 2013; the minutes of the governing board special meeting held on July 9, 2013; and the minutes of the governing board regular meeting held on July 11, 2013

**REVIEW AND POTENTIAL
APPROVAL OF 45-DAY REVISION
TO THE 2013-2014 ADOPTED
BUDGET**

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented this item per Education Code 4217(i), which states that "Not later than 45 days after the Governor signs the annual Budget Act, the school district shall make available for public review any revisions in revenues and expenditures that it has made to its budget to reflect the funding made available by that Budget Act."

REQUEST TO SPEAK

Olga Villagrana, community member, provided input regarding having music in Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District (FSUSD) schools.

Hannah Lee, 10 years old and FSUSD student, expressed that she would like to have a music teacher.

Sophia Lee, FSUSD student, would like to have music teachers this year.

Joan Gaut, representing Music for Our Children, expressed her desire to keep music in our schools.

Cliff Gordon, a community member, expressed his desire for the district to invest in music.

Colin Gordon, former student from FSUSD, stated that he would like see music put back in the schools.

Monica Brown, Green Valley teacher, expressed her desire for the district to put P.E. teachers, as well as music teachers back in the schools.

**REVIEW AND POTENTIAL
APPROVAL OF 45-DAY REVISION
TO THE 2013-2014 ADOPTED
BUDGET (continued)**

** Motion was made Ms. Shamansky, seconded by Mr. Gaut, and carried unanimously, with the student board member agreeing to approve the 45-day revision to the 2013-2014 adopted budget.

**REVIEW AND POTENTIAL
APPROVAL TO MAKE
APPLICATION FOR THE STATE
MANDATED BLOCK GRANT FOR
2013-2014 AND TO ALLOCATE
FUNDS TO SCHOOLS AND TO THE
DEFERRED MAINTENANCE FUND**

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services presented this item.

Ms. Morgan stated that 16 districts in the state of California are participating in the Block Grant. According to Ms. Morgan, opting into the block grant is a year-to-year option. She is recommending that we look at this as one-time dollars and allocate \$150,000 to schools, and \$625,000 to go to the deferred maintenance program, which generated the dollars by completing mandated cost logs. The remaining will be budgeted to maintenance.

** Motion was made by Mrs. Honeychurch, seconded by Mrs. Marianno, and carried unanimously, with the student Board member agreeing, to approve to make application for the state mandated block grant for 2013-2014 and to allocate funds to schools and to the deferred maintenance fund.

**APPROVAL OF DISTRICT GOALS
AND MAJOR ACTIVITIES FOR THE
2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

Perry Polk, Board President, presented this item.

Ms. Shamansky stated she would like to revise the Board Self-Evaluation tool.

Mrs. Honeychurch expressed that she would like to conduct a survey within the community.

Two revisions were made to the second item under Goal V. The Goal now reads, "Continue the work of the Governance Subcommittee to update policies and revise Board Self-Evaluation tools, as well as develop strategies to improve the effectiveness of the Governance Team (for example, providing surveys to the community, students, and staff).

** Motion was made by Ms. Shamansky, seconded by Mrs. Honeychurch, and carried unanimously, with the student Board member agreeing, to approve the District Goals and Major Activities for the 2013-2014 school year with the noted revisions.

**REVIEW AND POTENTIAL
APPROVAL OF THE 2013-2014
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD
GOVERNANCE CALENDAR**

Perry Polk, Board President, presented this item.
Mr. Polk reviewed several changes that were made to the Governance calendar for the 2013-2014 school year.

** Motion was made by Mr. Isom, seconded by Mrs. Marianno, and carried unanimously, with student Board member agreeing, to approve the District Governance Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Monica Brown, teacher at Green Valley School, communicated that Jowel Laguerre, Solano Community College Superintendent-President, would like to have breakfast with principals of FSUSD on September 27, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
(continued)

George Gwynn Jr. community member, expressed concern about a rumor regarding district purchases.

**MONTHLY REPORT ON
IMPLEMENTAION STATUS OF THE
DISTRICT LOCAL EDUCATIONAL
AGENCY (LEA) PLAN: COMMON
CORE STATE STANDARDS-
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Cara Mendoza, Coordinator of Professional Development and PAR/BTSA, presented this item consisting of professional developments that took place the summer of 2013. The District sponsored professional developments consisted of:

1. Math
 - Instruction and Resources grades TK-12
 - McGraw-Hill Math Connects for TK-2
2. English Language Arts
 - Functional Writing, Part 1
 - Functional Writing, Part II for (TK-6 & 7-12)
3. Across Content
 - Teach for Success (T4S), Secondary Focus
 - Planning Academic Writing and Speaking (PAWS) & Lesson Design, K-8 Focus
 - Becoming Technologically Savvy-Beginner and Advanced
 - SchoolCity- Beginner and Advanced
 - Co-Teaching- New Beginnings & Returning Teams
4. Site Retreats
 - Depth of Knowledge (DOK)
 - Smarter Balanced Information
 - English Language and Literacy Acceleration (ELLA)
5. UC Davis Math Project
 - Summer Institutes
6. Continued Focus
 - Writing- Every student, every day
 - Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)
7. Continued Support
 - Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Specialists, K-12 (Common Core Focus)
 - Claire Borge
 - Audrey Jacques
 - Shannon Wellbaum
 - Pam Brousseau (Math Grant Coordinator)

She also discussed the Teacher Support Center located in room 334 at the Central Office.

**REPORT: RATE OF ATTENDANCE
2012-2013**

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented this item. She stated that the District's attendance rate is access to state dollars. According to Ms. Morgan, FSUSD's attendance rate went down .22% but will still generate dollars for our District.

Andrew Ownby stated that we need continued, positive reinforcement for attendance. He added that attendance is always tied to student achievement.

**REPORT: RATE OF ATTENDANCE
2012-2013 (continued)**

Kris Corey, Superintendent, stated that when kids are successful in school, they tend to come to school.

REPORT: BUDGET UPDATE

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented this item. Her presentation included the following:

- The 2013-14 State Budget
- The structural deficit has been eliminated, at least for the duration of Proposition 30.
- Education gets its first slice of restoration of cuts that began in 2008-09.
- But the State Budget also understates 2013-14 revenues.
- No other area of the State Budget gets increased significantly.
- It is important to remember that Proposition 98 establishes the minimum funding level for K-14 education.
- The Local Control Funding formula (LCFF) is the model by which state funds are allocated to school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education (COES).
- The Governor's policy goals in pursuing reforms to the state's school finance system have remained consistent since January 2012 when he unveiled the Weighted Student Formula, the precursor to the LCFF.
- A school district's LCFF entitlement will be based on three key elements:
 - Its base year funding in 2012-13
 - The demographics of its student population, specifically the percentage of students who qualify for supplemental/concentration grants
 - The state appropriation for LCFF
- In general, a school district is better off under the LCFF if:
 - Its base year funding is below the statewide average
 - The proportion of students qualifying for supplemental/concentration grants is above the statewide average. The state provides a significant amount for LCFF growth in a given year
- The January Budget proposed \$1.6 billion, increasing to \$1.9 billion at the May Revision, and to \$2.1 billion upon State Budget enactment
- A district's LCFF entitlement for 2013-14 will be based on its 2012-13 base year funding level, its LCFF target, and the statewide funding provided to move toward the target
- The state factor of 12% of growth toward target is based on the 2013-14 appropriation of \$2.1 billion and the estimated statewide funding gap of \$17.5 billion

Conclusions About Multiyear Budgeting

- Because of the differential risks under the LCFF, all school districts but especially high-funded districts, will have to make prudent out-year revenue assumptions

REPORT: BUDGET UPDATE
(continued)

- There is no longer a statewide standard for expected revenue growth in the form of an expected inflationary adjustment
- Each district will have to carefully assess its demographic projections
- State Budget priorities can change from year to year with no guarantee that LCFF growth will be provided or that the LCFF will be fully funded
- Local conditions and budget decisions will be more important than ever in maintaining each district's solvency

More information regarding the specifics of the LCFF and its impact on FSUSD will be discussed at the August 22 Study Session.

**BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE
REPORTS AND MEMBER
INFORMATION**

A written report was provided by Board member Honeychurch.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board President Polk adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m. in memory of Ernie McClelland. Mr. McClelland worked for the school district for 33 years.

Approved: _____
Judi Honeychurch, Clerk

Attest : _____
Perry W. Polk, President

lm