

**FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNING BOARD STUDY SESSION/REGULAR MEETING  
August 22, 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 22, 2013.

The Governing Board convened in Open Session at 3:03 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Board President Polk noted revisions to items on the agenda:

- Additional information is being provided for study session item no. II-B regarding custodial staffing and student ratios
- Consent Calendar item no. VII-D-2; Resolution to Excuse Board Member Isom's Attendance at the June 27, 2013 Governing Board Regular Meeting
- Revised slides have been provided for Information item no. X-A-I, pages 75-76, to reflect 2014 instead of 2013; Monthly Report on Implementation Status of the District Local Educational Agency (LEA) Plan: Local Educational Agency (LEA) Plan Revision Update/Timeline and Scope of Work

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Motion was made by Mr. Isom, seconded by Mr. Gaut, and carried with student Board member Hsu absent, to approve adoption of the agenda as modified.

Member Absent: Kristin Hsu

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON STUDY SESSION**

There were no comments

**STUDY SESSION**

The Budget Workshop consisted of budget priorities for the 2013-2014 school year. Budget priorities include:

- Ensure:
  - Aligned to District goals
  - Sustainable at least for the next few years
- Recognize:
  - Unmet needs will remain
- Goal I- Identified Needs:
  - Goal I- Implementation, support, and monitoring of the Common Core State Standards
  - Goal I- Recommendations
    - Address technology, staff development, and instructional materials' needs with \$4.3M Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Block Grant
    - \$500K allocation to Education Services for CCSS- reallocate for other needs

**STUDY SESSION** (continued)

- PK-3 Class Size Reduction (CSR)
  - Implement required class size ratio for 2013-14 of 31:1 with hardcap requirement will be costly
  - Add 10 FTE teachers to 2013-14 budget (\$600K)
  - Examine cost-benefit of program during the coming year
  - Discuss at the bargaining table
- Goal II- Identified Needs:
  - Goal II- Maintain a safe environment for students and staff
- Goal III- Identified Needs:
  - Goal III- Maintain fiscal solvency, liquidity, and effective use of District resources
  - Goal III- Recommendations
    - Increase reserves to the equivalent of 3% and one year's projected revenue growth- use additional funds that fall to the bottom line when we close the books for 2012-13. If goal is not achieved repeat at close of 2013-14
    - Implement self-supporting Attendance Recovery Program
- Goal IV- Identified Needs:
  - Goal IV- Maintain positive District and community relations

President Polk began the meeting by asking the Board the direction it would like to lead the District in education. He stated that it is important for the public to realize that we are still in a deep financial hole; adding that education has new money, but we have to understand it's only a drop. He stated that we should focus on priorities and generalizations; that we are looking at a difficult time ahead as we are unable to fulfill all our needs in looking at the Board's priorities.

Mr. Isom asked what it would take to increase counselors, especially at the high schools.

Ms. Shamansky asked how administration came to the identified needs in relation to goals/actions.

**Student Board Member Hsu arrived at 3:15 p.m.**

Mr. Gaut asked if additional funds would be needed to maintain current programs.

Other questions from the Board:

- What it would take to catch up with deferred maintenance?
- How can we expand cocurricular and extra curricular activities?
- How do we go forward without deficit spending
- How will the District make decisions without gain/loss routine?

**STUDY SESSION** (continued)

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, stated that the Board's priorities were aligned with the District goals that were approved at a previous meeting.

Superintendent Kris Corey stated that there are still unmet needs. We are currently funding previous priorities of the Board, such as the focus on secondary programs. She stated that we spend less on programs than what is necessary and needed. Ms. Corey stated that alternatives for our students have increased and that there is funding currently in the District's budget for this, as this has been a priority of the Board. According to the Superintendent, the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) program is a Board priority that has been maintained. The Superintendent told the Board that administration would bring back the priorities with recommended dollar amounts at the September 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting for information.

**Board Member Honeychurch asked if the District would need additional funds to maintain the current testing level for the GATE program, which would include continuation of grade two testing.**

**Superintendent Corey stated that the District has the ability to maintain the low testing level that was done in 2012-2013 in the GATE program.**

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, stated that there are still huge needs in the area of technology. She stated that staff development is a continuous need, as is visual arts, library needs, preschool, class size reduction, and additional support for the District's elementary school programs.

With regard to Goal #2, Campus Security, Ms. Morgan stated that the city's financial woes are now starting to hit the District. For example, she stated, school resource officers (SRO), can no longer be funded by the cities of Fairfield and Suisun at the same level as they were previously. She stated that the District has begun to put some of its resources towards deferred maintenance, and suggested that the District could centralize supervision of the custodial staff. According to Ms. Morgan, guidance counseling services are also an identified need.

Ms. Morgan stated that School Services of California is recommending that Districts such as ours increase their reserves by 3%.

Marylou Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, stated that there have not been funds to increase compensation for our employees. She stated that health insurance rates have risen remarkably and that while costs are going up, compensation has not.

Ms. Morgan stated that the District needs to maintain its positive communications with the community. She stated that

**STUDY SESSION (continued)**

great things are happening this year, adding that with the new youth services center, the District will be able to funnel where students can go who need specific services. According to Ms. Morgan, the District also has the ability to address technology.

The Superintendent, Kris Corey, stated that we can do *anything* the Board wants, we just can't do *everything* they want.

Following is a list of priorities the Board would like to discuss before their final decision on their top three priorities:

- Personnel compensation, SROs, and counselors
- Holistic employee support
- Elementary site- reintroduce physical education and visual performing arts through use of specialists
- Adult education
- Maintain professional development
- Increase reserve
- Release time in specialized areas
- P.E .and Visual and Performing Arts specialists
- Increase maintenance department staff
- Technology
- Counseling- both behavioral and career strengthened

The Board chose the following as its top priorities to discuss:

- Compensation for employees
- Elementary Release time provided in visual and performing arts and p.e. through use of specialists
- Increase maintenance and custodial support
- Increased counseling services both behavioral and guidance and career

The Study Session adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments.

**RECONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION**

The Governing Board reconvened into Closed Session at 5:01 p.m. to discuss:

- Conference with labor negotiators regarding the District and the Fairfield-Suisun Unified Teachers Association (FSUTA); California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #302, Office Technical and Business Services Unit; California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #302, Support/Operations Unit; Mutual Organization of Supervisors (MOS); Ancillary Professions Association (APA); and the Fairfield-Suisun Management Association (FSMA)

**CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned Closed Session at 5:40 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Polk called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

Superintendent Kris Corey reported that during Closed Session the Board took no action.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

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

Mr. Polk called upon principals 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**

Kelly Morgan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, recognized the maintenance and custodial staff for their amazing and hard work during the summer. Her presentation included a video showing all of the work they accomplished during the months of July and August.

Ms. Morgan, in a letter to the Superintendent, stated that summer maintenance projects took place at several schools; the Adult School, Rodriguez High School, Fairfield High School, Public Safety Academy, Crystal Middle School, Armijo High School, Armijo High School Annex, Sullivan Middle School, District Office, Tolenas Elementary, E. Ruth Sheldon Elementary, Green Valley Middle School, Grange Middle School, B. Gale Wilson, Oakbrook Elementary, and Suisun Valley School. She stated that the Maintenance Department also helped with moving the Special Education Occupational Therapists and some teachers to various sites. She stated that all sites received:

1. Alerton Energy Management System upgrade
2. General maintenance and vandalism repair
3. Site walks with the Superintendent and team

Kris Corey, Superintendent, thanked the maintenance team who helped to move her furniture and to Stacy Burke for her creation of the video presentation for the maintenance department.

Board Member Honeychurch read a proclamation regarding The Leaven, which is attached to these minutes. She thanked those who worked with the Leaven Project.

Martha Lacy, Principal of David Weir, has worked with The Leaven Program for four years. She recognized their work with the neediest children, and stated that they have made a big difference in the community and with our students.

Mark Lillis, from The Leaven, thanked the District for their help with their project and expressed his gratitude.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

In her report, Superintendent Kris Corey stated that the opening of schools this year went very smoothly. She stated that staff from the Central Office was deployed to all sites to assist on the first day of school. Ms. Corey added that enrollment is up, and we are over projection in enrollment.

The Superintendent stated that staff participated in the Resource Fair again this year, which is held in the month of August. There were many people from Fairfield and Suisun who volunteered for this project.

Superintendent Corey announced the "I'm Alive and Free" Youth Conference will be presented Saturday, September 14.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
(continued)

Ms. Corey stated that Deborah Storey, a teacher from Laurel Creek, had several students who entered a writing contest in Florida, and that one of Ms. Storey's students, Bendgermien Pendergrass, won first place.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT  
CALENDAR**

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

1. acceptance of donations to the District
2. approval of District vendor warrants for the month of June 2013
3. approval of District vendor warrants for the month of July 2013
4. approval of District payroll expenditures for the month of June 2013
5. approval of District payroll expenditures for the month of July 2013
6. approval of personnel action report 1314-3a (certificated hires, leaves retirements, and resignations)
7. approval of personnel action report 1314-3b (classified hires, leaves retirements, and resignations)
8. approval of the minutes of the Governing Board study session/regular meeting held on August 8, 2013
9. approval of resolution no. 04-1314, Resolution to Excuse Board Member Isom's attendance at the July 11, 2013 Governing Board Meeting

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

Brad Davis, Chairman of the Fairfield Youth Commission, spoke regarding the violence prevention youth program entitled "Alive and Free," as it relates to the safety of students and job opportunities for youth.

Kevin Gonzalez spoke on behalf of the "Alive and Free" program and thanked the District for donating a salad bar. He invited members of the District to attend the presentation.

Jerry Fillingin, California Schools Employee Association (CSEA), stated that he looks forward to working with the District regarding the District's policy on professional leave.

Joan Gaut, from Music for our Children, thanked the Board and was happy to listen to the Board's priorities in the Study Session. She spoke about a study that was done regarding SAT scores and how music involvement increased those scores.

**MONTHLY REPORT ON**

Roxane Liu, Director of Instructional Support, presented this

**IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE DISTRICT LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA) PLAN: LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA) PLAN REVISION UPDATE/TIMELINE AND SCOPE OF WORK**

item regarding the revision update, timeline, and scope of work of the District's Local Educational Agency (LEA) Plan. The scope of work included:

- Background and General Information
  - Extension of 2010-2013 LEA Plan for additional year
  - WestEd hired as consultant to assist
  - Four-dimensional District study
- July- November 2013
  - Information gathering
  - Documents
  - Interviews
- December 2013- January 2014
  - WestEd reviews all data
  - WestEd completes report
- February- March 2014
  - Four-dimenisonal study presented
  - District priorities determined
  - Plan written
- April- June 2014
  - Governing Board approval of LEA Plan
  - Implementation
  - Monitoring

**MONTHLY REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE DISTRICT LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA) PLAN: LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA) PLAN REVISION UPDATE/TIMELINE AND SCOPE OF WORK (continued)**

Mrs. Liu answered questions from the Board and stated that WestEd will visit eight school sites.

Ms. Corey added that District teachers will be a part of this process.

**REPORT: SUISUN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM CONSTRUCTION**

Kim VanGundy, Director of Facilities, presented this item, stating that in May of 2013, the Board approved work to be done at Suisun Valley. Her presentation depicted the scope of work and construction that took place, which include seven modular classrooms, new restrooms, and the relocation of four portables. She stated that the project was completed in August.

**BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND MEMBER INFORMATION**

There were no reports.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Board President Polk adjourned the meeting at 6: 49 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Judi Honeychurch, Clerk

Attest : \_\_\_\_\_  
Perry W. Polk, President

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