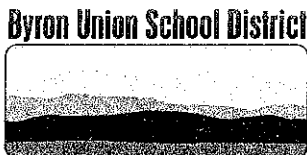


BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Of the BYRON UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Location:
TIMBER POINT SCHOOL LIBRARY
40 Newbury Lane
Discovery Bay, CA 94505



Thursday, May 20, 2010

MINUTES

A. OPENING CEREMONIES

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Board Members: Jill Sprenkel, President;
Bobbi Nugent, Elaine Landro Kenneth Silman
Others: Eric Prater, Superintendent
Absent: Karri Murayama, Clerk
3. Flag Salute
4. Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Elaine Landro and seconded by Ken Silman to approve the agenda.
5. **Showcase: 5th Grade State Report Presentation:** Melissa Sprenkel and Trevor Fletcher from Timber Point and Luis Sanchez, Hayley Finetti, Bryson Hancock, and Kai Bohannon from Discovery Bay presented their state reports. Denise Sneath and Julie Clarke presented an example of the math lessons that they learned from the Math Institute which is part of the three year math grant that the district is participating in along with other Far East County School Districts. They feel that the students now have a new level of understanding and our teachers are anxious to receive the state math test results.

B. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Ken Silman: Looking forward to Timberville Carnival this weekend; attended Open House at Timber Point; congratulated and thanked Parent University committee—great event with a good turnout; thanked Joan Buchanan for being in the district two days in a row showing care for schools; nice to see Jerry McNerny as well.

Elaine Landro: Thanked students who presented state reports and to Denise and Julie for presenting; attended Excelsior track meet which Excelsior won; Discovery Bay talent show was awesome with talented and confident students; Discovery Bay's Open House and art work was so organized; Excelsior Spring Concert was enjoyable

Bobbi Nugent: Parent University was a great success and very informative; sixth grade shadow day was today; Discovery Bay Open House had a good turnout; thanks to Mr. Peterdorf for organizing Far East County Speech Contest; would like update on recap of discipline issues at Excelsior School and number of eighth grade students passing graduation requirements; would like to look into having uniforms in the district and setting up requirement of students to perform volunteer hours; would like to do a Byron School District picnic or barbeque for staff and families, possibly before school starts; former school secretary, Joyce Moxin, is moving to Wyoming to be with her family and thanked her for her service to the district and Promise Singers.

Jill Sprenkel: Attended incoming sixth grade parent night last night and was excited for next year; teachers and principal presented a good meeting; Saturday is Far East County Speech Contest at Discovery Bay School; Special Kids Foundation annual Wine & Chocolate Festival will be Saturday night.

- C. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS:** Dr. Prater was impressed with the Timber Point Open House, going through all of the classrooms which were very organized; Discovery Bay Open House was also impressive; happy to see dirt moving at Excelsior expansion project; acknowledged principals for the extra work being done preparing for next year so the start up is done well; working on a communication for staff and families so everyone knows what we are doing, what are objectives, to know what we are doing and be on the same page; acknowledged and commended the key stakeholder group, called the "Roundtable" who are defining core and intervention in the district, clarifying what those terms mean in relation to instruction. Regarding "Race to Nowhere," there is a real burnout factor to No Child Left Behind and public school funding. California has the most rigorous benchmarks, but the funding model doesn't match up to it, so there is a double standard. This is a movement that is asking communities to come together and look at what we are asking kids to do and if it is realistic.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Steve Bell, representative of Carpenter's Union, is behind contract with Acme Construction and will help to use local subcontractors; he wanted to know if there was anything the union can do to help get more funding to complete the project. Ron Holcombe stated that approximately \$6.7 million would still be needed. Any contacts the union might have with Sacramento or public officials could be helpful.

E. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FINANCE AND FACILITIES

- a. Measure C: Approve Lease/Leaseback Contract with Acme Construction for General Contractor package for completion of the Excelsior Campus Building Replacement Project, DSA #02-110475. Per RFQ response dated March 24th, 2010**

This contract would provide bonded and guaranteed work by Acme Construction to build the activity center on the Excelsior Expansion Project. The work should be complete in 12 months from start of construction. Ron Holcombe is working with Gary Gery to make sure the district is ready to start construction of classroom building and gymnasium when state match money is received within budget. There is no general fund exposure in this contract. Mrs. Nugent would like to be kept updated on construction timelines. A motion was made by Ken Silman and seconded by Elaine Landro to approve Lease/Leaseback Contract with Acme Construction for General Contractor package for completion of the Excelsior Campus Building Replacement Project, DSA #02-110475.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel, Bobbi Nugent
Absent: Karri Murayama

- b. Update on May Revise and Its Impact on District**

Dr. Prater and Ms. Hellier went today to Sacramento to hear School Services of California overview of May Revise. They learned that there were no major changes from what was reported in January. The property tax revenue received in April was lower than expected. Dr. Prater said that leaders from CSBA and ACSA reported that they filed a class action lawsuit today claiming that cuts are unconstitutional. Dr. Prater would like to have a budget study session, possibly on June 10th, at 5:00 p.m., to present a draft of budget and get feedback before bringing back to the board for final approval.

- c. Financial Status Report as of May 14, 2010; Approve Resolution 10-10, Authorization to Increase/Decrease Budget and Transfer Funds**

Ellen Bower inquired about PAR funds. Mrs. Hellier explained that the funds are flexible funds and can be used anywhere in the budget. A motion was made by Jill Sprenkel and seconded by Ken Silman to approve Resolution 10-10.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel, Bobbi Nugent
Absent: Karri Murayama

- d. Approve Resolution 11-10, Authorizing Budget Transfers and Other Budgetary Adjustments for the Remainder of the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year**

This allows the district business office and CCCOE to make budget transfers at the end of the year. A motion was made by Ken Silman and seconded by Jill Sprenkel to approve Resolution 11-10.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel, Bobbi Nugent
Absent: Karri Murayama

2. STUDENT LEARNING AND CURRICULUM

- a. Approve purchase of the Step Up to Writing and Great Valley Writing programs for the 2010-11 school year in an amount not to exceed \$18,000. Existing Title II federal restricted funds will be used.**

Mr. Petersdorf presented his recommendation for improving writing instruction, which would include teachers' materials. Great Valley Writing program is a good start which is relatively inexpensive and is part of a national writing project. It is a solid focus of schools; training program through Stanislaus State. All teachers would get 2-hour sessions where the trainers are classroom teachers. Training would begin in August and occur every month except March and would provide strategies and techniques.

A motion was made by Bobbi Nugent and seconded by Elaine Landro to approve the purchase of Step Up to Writing and Great Valley Writing programs for the 2010-11 school year using Title II federal restricted funds.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel, Bobbi Nugent
Absent: Karri Murayama

- b. Independent Home School Program for 2010-11**

An announcement appeared in the Contra Coast Times regarding the Antioch Home Schooling program. Dr. Prater stated that a neighboring district is also planning to start a home schooling program, so it would be

advantageous to start one in this district. There is a need for a comprehensive school program, especially those that miss a lot of school for which the district loses the ADA. It is definitely a needed service. Legal guidelines and budgetary needs also need to be reviewed. Dr. Prater would like to put this program together this summer so it is ready to start during the 2010-11 school year. Information will be brought back at a future board meeting. Advertisements will be sent out to community. Dr. Prater explained that there are students who cannot make it through a regular school environment. It could possibly bring in extra revenue by bringing back families into the district and not lose ADA through absences. Curriculum will be based on core adoptions, and will progress into more.

Bobbi Nugent made a motion to direct the Superintendent to establish an independent study and home school program in the Byron Union School District for the 2010-11 school year that meets all the necessary requirements as directed by the state of California. Ken Silman seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel, Bobbi Nugent

Absent: Karri Murayama

c. Approve minimum days for 2010-11 School Year

Board Member Bobbi Nugent left at 10:40 p.m.

A motion was made by Jill Sprenkel and seconded by Elaine Landro to approve the minimum days for the 2010-11 school year.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel,

Absent: Karri Murayama, Bobbi Nugent

d. Sixth Grade Science Camp Survey/Update

Dr. Prater shared responses of the 56 surveys returned by current fifth grade parents regarding possibility of sixth grade science camp. By the responses, the majority of parents are interested in sending their children. Dr. Prater will further look into what dates are available, and start process of setting up the trip and arrange for fundraisers. Jill Sprenkel and Elaine Landro are part of the committee to start up again. More will be brought back to June 17th meeting.

3. DIRECTION OF THE DISTRICT

a. Approve Resolution 09-10, Ordering Regular Governing Board Member Election; Specifications of the Elective Order

A motion was made by Ken Silman and seconded by Jill Sprenkel to approve Resolution 09-10.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel

Absent: Karri Murayama, Bobbi Nugent

b. Discussion of Federal Race to the Top Application and Deadline

Dr. Prater stated that the district put in the electronic intent response by yesterday's deadline date, but full 18 page application is due tomorrow, and he will submit if directed to by the board. But he feels that the District is already doing the things collaboratively as a team. He further stated that Race to the Top seems to be a politically motivated reform effort with one time money. Ken Silman stated that it appears it would take a lot of time and, in turn, cost money, with a four year commitment for one time money. Jill Sprenkel feels there are too many unanswered questions. Consensus from the board is they do not want Dr. Prater to complete and submit the form.

F. CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Jill Sprenkel and seconded by Ken Silman.

1. Business

a. Warrants: 5/7/10; 5/12/10

2. Contract with non-public agency for special education student(s):

a. Foundations Therapy Service in the amount of \$6,100.50 for the period 6/4/10-6/30/11

3. Minutes: 4/14/10; 4/21/10; 5/4/10; 5/6/10

4. Donations:

a. An anonymous donation in the amount of \$500 to help fund the Timber Point School library clerk

b. Discovery Bay Lions Club in the amount of \$200 for CJSF

c. The Home Mag publication in the amount of \$100 for BUSD leadership

Roll Call: Ayes: Ken Silman, Elaine Landro, Jill Sprenkel

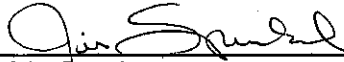
Absent: Karri Murayama, Bobbi Nugent

G. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Governing Board of Trustees is scheduled for: **June 17, 2010 – A special study session on the 2010-11 budget will be held on June 10, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.**

H. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 p.m.



Clerk of the Board
Date Approved: 5/9/10



Superintendent