



KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Special Board of Trustees Meeting **and Board Study Session** **January 20, 2011**

OFFICIAL MINUTES

PRELIMINARY

Call to Order

The January 20, 2011 Special Meeting and Board Study Session of the Board of Trustees of the Kern High School District was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Board President Bryan Batey, in the Board Room of the Administrative and Support Services Office, Kern High School District, 5801 Sundale Avenue, Bakersfield.

Members Present:

Bryan Batey, President
Chad Vegas, Vice President
Mike Williams, Clerk
Martha Miller, Member
William R. Perry, Ed.D., Member

Member(s) Absent:

None

Administrative Staff Member(s) Present:

Donald E. Carter, Ed.D., Superintendent
Joe Thompson, Associate Superintendent, Ph.D., Instruction
Bryon J. Schaefer, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Business
William R. Jones, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel
Rebecca A. Shipley, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Trustees and Superintendent

Administrative Staff Member(s) Absent:

None

Adoption of Agenda For Closed Session

Superintendent Carter announced no changes have been made to the Closed Session Agenda and asked for Board action to adopt. It was moved by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Miller and carried that the agenda for Closed Session be adopted as posted with no changes.

**Hearing of Citizens
on Closed Session
Agenda**

President Heinrichs asked if any citizen was present who wished to address the Board of Trustees on any item to be considered in Closed Session.

Retired teacher, Jenel Hodges, talked to Trustees about her experiences with the current principal at Kern Valley High School. "As you appoint an Interim Principal, I hope that you will consider appointing someone who really has the needs of the students and staff at heart." She asked Trustees to appoint someone who will restore the trust in the community about the high school.

Darrell Snyder thanked Trustees for the opportunity to speak. He asked that Trustees stop the high turnover at Kern Valley High School and asked that the new principal be a matriarch or a patriarch, not a CEO. "Like any family, it (the high school) needs peace and security."

Hearing no additional requests to make comments, the Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:32 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

**Adjournment to
Closed Session**

The Board of Trustees convened in Closed Session at 8:42 a.m. The following Closed Session agenda items were considered by the Board of Trustees:

***Public Administrative Employee Appointment:**

- A. Interim Principal, Kern Valley High School

ADJOURNMENT FROM CLOSED SESSION

**Adjournment from
Closed Session**

The Board of Trustees adjourned Closed Session at 9:00 a.m.

RECONVENING IN OPEN SESSION

**Reconvening in
Open Session**

The Board of Trustees reconvened in Open Session at 9:03 a.m. in the Board Room of the Kern High School District Administrative and Support Services Office.

**Adoption of
Final Agenda**

It was moved by Trustee Vegas, seconded by Trustee Miller and carried that the Final Agenda be approved with no changes.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

**Closed Session
Report**

In Closed Session, the Board of Trustees approved the administrative appointment of John Meyers to the position of Interim Principal of Kern Valley High School, effective immediately. No other action was taken by the Board of Trustees in Closed Session.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Carter reported that, effective January 22, 2011, Chris Dutton will accept a lateral transfer to provide leadership for the District's new continuation high school. Action to appoint the new site administrator for Vista Continuation High will take place at the February 1, 2011 Regular Meeting.

Superintendent's Comments on District Activities

**Superintendent's
Comments on
District Activities**

No additional comments were given.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications

No communications were shared with Trustees at the Board meeting. Superintendent Carter reported that all communications received for the Board of Trustees have been forwarded to the Trustees under separate cover.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Hearing of Citizens

No additional requests were submitted to address the Board of Trustees.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

No items.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No items.

PERSONNEL SERVICES

No items.

BUSINESS SERVICES

No items.

CONSENT AGENDA

*Items required by law and/or items in accordance with the District
Administrative Code and/or the Education Code*

Consent Agenda

Superintendent's Office

No items.

Instructional Services

No Items

Personnel Services

No Items

Business Services

1. Approval of Award of Bid 2414 for District-wide Football Helmet Reconditioning and Certification Services to Sports Chalet Team Sales in the approximate vendor total of \$71,091.00.

ADJOURNMENT TO BOARD STUDY SESSION

**Adjournment To
Board Study Session**

President Batey adjourned the Special Meeting of January 20, 2011 at 9:05 a.m. to a Board Study Session.

BOARD STUDY SESSION TOPIC:

This Study Session was scheduled to provide time and opportunity for Trustees to discuss the continued review of the budget for the Kern High School District for 2011-2012, followed by a discussion on the development of Strategic Priorities for the next two years.

BUDGET REVIEW AND PLANNING II

**Budget Review and
Planning III**

The economic crisis is not over for the State of California, reported Assistant Superintendent Schaefer. "We are seeing some hope, but there are negatives." There is a feeling that the 2011-2012 school year will be the toughest financial year yet. The Governor has proposed no further decrease below 2010-11 for K-12 education due to it bearing disproportionate cuts in prior years. The actual calculation, however, is a \$25/ADA decrease for the Kern High School District. Status quo will require approval by voters of extension of tax rate increases. Failure of ballot initiatives could cut \$2.3 billion from K-12 education budget, equaling \$375/ADA for the Kern High School District and/or more deferrals. In 2007-08, the District received \$6,795 per ADA in the revenue limit, and the 2009-10 school year provided funding of \$6,849 per ADA. If the status quo is in place, the ADA funding would be \$6,082. If the \$375 per ADA cut is in place, the funding level drops to \$5,732.

Current year ending balance will be \$84.0 million, which includes one-time monies that are not expected to be populated again. The District has to incorporate the best business practices; however, each year includes \$41.0 million in deferrals of funding from the State. The details of the 2011-2012 State budgets are, at this time, very preliminary.

Trustee Batey asked Assistant Superintendent Schaefer to clarify what the term deferrals means. The response was that the District continues to pay the bills and salaries; however, the State does not provide the funding until the next year or two.

Superintendent Carter reminded Trustees that several million of funding from categorical and adult school funding was swept into the general fund. That provision is set to expire in two years. The elimination of school bus routes within the two-mile walk in radius was a cost savings for the District, among other savings in the warehousing, maintenance and operations, and other District Office operations. “These are mostly centralized operations that are separate from the school site operations and the classrooms.” Superintendent Carter continued by reviewing the many budget reductions over the past three years, which have allowed the balances to be what they are today. He reported that the challenge before the Board of Trustees will be to determine if additional expenditures should be reduced before the 2011-2012 school year, or maintain status quo for one additional year.

Trustee Batey reported it is difficult to know when the storm will be over. “A year ago we formulated a budget with a deficit, and we received a one-time backfill from the State. It is my feeling that we approach it by establishing a budget with some savings but also try to continue the programs in place.” Trustee Miller acknowledged that, because of prudent planning, the district could maintain status quo for one additional year. Trustee Vegas reported that the budget is developed on unknown factors. “The problems I see are accelerating, and not getting better.”

Trustee Williams agreed that even if the economy stabilizes, we can’t maintain the ending balances without dipping into cash reserves to pay vendors and salaries. None of us want to reduce staff or reduce salaries, but we do have to find ways to raise test scores. He encouraged staff determining long-term ways of reducing finances and not continued the high standards.

BOARD STUDY SESSION TOPIC:

PATHWAYS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT, PHASE II

Strategic Priorities

A process was established two years where a newly elected board takes time to develop new Strategic Priorities for the Kern High School District. The purpose of this portion of the Study Session was to look at the current Strategic Priorities and determine if any of the long-term priorities need re-visiting.

Superintendent Carter reported that the current structure of the current top priority of maximizing student success is still very important, as is the main foundation of maintain fiscal stability. He shared suggestions under each of the four Strategic Priorities, including:

Provide Effective Instructional and Extra-curricular Programs

- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Continue to focus on curriculum and programs to better prepare students for work, career training, and/or college as a long-term priority, rather than a near-term initiative.
- ✓ Near-Term Initiatives to include: Continue efforts to expand CTE opportunities; and, explore instructional options such as Academies, Magnet programs; and, Online learning opportunities.
- ✓ Near-Term Initiatives: Continue to follow the charter school discussions and provide leadership in reviewing small charter schools.

Maintain and Support An Exemplary Staff

- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Delete the current bulleted item of “Provide preparation focused on state and federal academic standards.”
- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Re-order the items to list “Create professional learning opportunities by promoting collegiality and collaboration” as the first item.
- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Add “Continue to develop and support a district-wide *Professional Learning Community (PLC) culture.*”

Enhance Student Support Services

- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Delete reference to new schools in last bulleted item.
- ✓ Near-Term Initiatives: Upgrade District technology infrastructure and add a new *Student Information System.*

Strengthen School/Community Relations

- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Transition to Trustee Voting Areas. One Trustee spoke against including this as a long-term priority.
- ✓ Long-Term Priorities: Emphasize articulation with feeder districts
- ✓ Near-Term Initiatives: Delete existing bulleted item
- ✓ Implement a “*Parent Education Portal*” for parent access to their student’s records.
- ✓ Near-Term Initiatives: Include current initiative of “Expand parent/student educational choices by altering our open enrollment policies, transfer policies, and related practices to facilitate student opportunities to choose unique educational programs of particular interest, regardless of program location.

Superintendent Carter reported that the comments from Trustees will be reviewed and a proposed Strategic Priorities will be presented for information, possibly as early as the February 1, 2011 Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

President Batey adjourned the Board Study Session of January 20, 2011 at 10:03 a.m.

J. Bryan Batey, President

Mike Williams, Clerk

JH/WRP:bs