

**CORCORAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 12, 2010
6:31 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Robert Alcorn, President of the Board, called the regular meeting of the Corcoran Unified School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Office.

TRUSTEES PRESENT/ABSENT

Trustees present were Robert Alcorn, Steve White, Karen Frey, Raul Lerma and Mary Wadsworth.

OTHERS PRESENT

Others present were Rich Merlo, Steve Brown, Mary Taylor, Lora Cartwright, Mike Anderson, Elizabeth Mendoza, Chuck Gent, Diana Cruz, Ashley Quintanilla, and Donnetta Murray

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Alcorn welcomed those present and led the flag salute.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board approved the agenda for October 12, 2010.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2010, with amendment of additions to the C.O.S. Report and the Technology Report regarding iPads at the request of Trustee Mary Wadsworth

Signed the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2010

Purchase Order Numbers 110458 - 110529

Warrant register for September 22, 2010 for \$1,200.00

September 24, 2010 for \$98,303.46

September 29, 2010 for \$65,209.00

October 1, 2010 for \$909,169.37

Payroll warrants register for September 30, 2010 for \$1,464,778.21

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Raul Lerma

Board Vote: 5-0

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

High School ASB members Diana Cruz and Ashley Quintanilla reported on Homecoming events taking place at their school, including a football game and dance. They also reported on upcoming football and volleyball games.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Budget Committee: Superintendent Rich Merlo advised the Board that there was a large turnout of about 40 people at the District's first Budget Committee meeting held October 5. The group was composed of teachers, administrators, classified staff and parents. He and Administrative Assistant Belle Leal presented the district's three-year financial plan. The plan showed the deficits for the upcoming years and the group was informed that the District's goal is to cut \$500,000 next year. Many committee members felt keeping people should be at the top of the priority list. He added that the meeting was a good starting point and that the group will start going through budget items line by line. He will also present the feedback from the summer meetings to the group.

Brown Act: Superintendent Merlo continued to review the Brown Act with the Board. He covered the public's opportunity to address the Board. That opportunity is supplied on each District agenda for regular meetings and special meetings. The Board may not prohibit public criticism of policies, procedures, programs or services of the agency or the acts of omission of the Board, although Legislature provides that this protected right to criticize individuals does not grant any privilege or protection for such speech beyond what is already provided in the law (Civil Code section 47). He added that it is free speech for the people addressing the Board, but that the Board can set procedure. The District's policy is to always be respectful and polite. If someone goes beyond what should be said, the next step is to ask him or her to stop followed by the third step of calling law enforcement. The Board president is provided written language to use in that situation.

Recommendation of Sweeps to the Board: Mr. Merlo stated the District would be giving information at the next meetings on what the State will allow districts to sweep and the District's recommendations. At that time, Mr. Merlo will be asking for feedback from the Board.

Emergency Board Meeting: Superintendent Merlo informed the Board that there needs to be an emergency Board meeting to approve pre-school students moving into the new building. The meeting will be held Friday, October 15, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee Wadsworth reported that although she was unable to attend the Human Resource Sub-Committee meeting, she thought it was well organized by Pam Cespedes. Mrs. Wadsworth asked for an updated organizational chart.

Trustee Karen Frey reported that she attended a very good Curriculum Sub-Committee Meeting in which they studied benchmark assessments. The District's two band teachers attended and reviewed their program. Steve Brown, Director of Educational Services, stated the band directors have put together a three to five year plan for the program and would like direction on where their plan fits in the District's priorities. Trustee Robert Alcorn would like to see the program on an agenda in November and for the District to give it as much support as possible.

Trustee Frey stated she was assuming the position of this year's Kings County School Board Association representative unless anyone of the other Board members would like to take over the position. They all agreed she is doing an excellent job and should remain the District's representative.

DROP OUT REPORT

The Drop-Out Report was postponed until the next Board meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Information Items – Student Trips approved by Superintendent Rich Merlo

- a. A trip for five High School students and staff members Aaron Luoma and Carmen Vidales to California Supreme Court Outreach Session in Fresno on Tuesday, October 5, 2010. The requested van and other expenses paid by the Afterschool Program.
- b. A trip for 30 High School band members, Band Director Chad McCoy and assistant Pauline Molano to the Lemoore Field Show Competition in Lemoore on Saturday, October 23, 2010. Requested bus transportation and fees to be paid by donations and fundraisers.
- c. A trip for 30 High School band members, 20 John Muir band members and band directors Chad McCoy and Janet Tenpass to California State University – Fresno to observe and meet the Fresno State Bulldog Marching Band on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Requested bus transportation to be paid by fundraisers.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON TRIP

The Board voted to approve ratification of a long distance trip for 22 High School Academic Decathlon Team members and Coach Mike Pankratz to The Great Depression Lecture in Madera on Wednesday, October 6, 2010, paid by the General Fund.

Motion: Raul Lerma

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 5-0

FFA TRIP TO CAL POLY APPROVED

The Board voted to approve a long distance trip for five High School FFA members to the Cal Poly University Fall Preview on Friday, October 15, 2010. Requested van transportation and all expenses to be paid by Ag Incentive Fund and Farm Account.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

FIRST READING OF BP 5131 - CONDUCT

The Board held the first reading of Board Policy 5131 – Conduct. Board members questioned No. 16 on Administrative Regulation 5131 in regards to Soma being the only prescription drug that is listed for being grounds for suspension/expulsion if it is illegally offered, arranged or negotiated to sell or sold. Board members questioned whether it should be for all prescription drugs. Mr. Merlo will research the Ed Code in regards to the subject matter.

BP 5145.9 – HATE-MOTIVATED BEHAVIOR

The Board held the first reading of Board Policy 5145.9 – Hate-Motivated Behavior. Trustee Mary Wadsworth questioned Mr. Merlo regarding the staff development noted in the policy. Mr. Merlo has reviewed it with Human Resources and staff development is covered in harassment training for all new employees (at Kings County Office of Education) and periodical updates for existing staff.

BELL SCHEDULE CHANGED TO ACCOMMODATE WASC REVIEW

The Board voted to approve changes in the High School Bell Schedule to accommodate the WASC Review. The changes would include: Wednesday, November 10, 2010 change from Late State Schedule to Regular Bell Schedule; Monday, November 15, 2010 change from a Regular Bell Schedule to a Minimum Day Schedule; and change Wednesday, November 17, 2010 from a Late Start Schedule to a Rally Day Schedule and release students at 2:45 p.m.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Raul Lerma

Board Vote: 5-0

HIGH SCHOOL FINAL EXAM SCHEDULED APPROVED

The Board voted to approve the proposed High School Final Exam Schedule for December 2010 (adding three early-out days) and a Final Exam Schedule for May/June 2010 (adding three early-out days).

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 5-0

MINIMUM DAY FOR DECEMBER 17

The Board voted to approve an additional minimum day on Friday, December 17, 2010 on the District School Calendar in order to comply with the collective bargaining agreement.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

PIVOT CONTRACT FOR JOHN MUIR SERVICES

The Board voted to approve a PIVOT contract for services by Gary Giannoni to coach John Muir Middle School staff in staff development and implementing a professional learning community.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

OBSOLETE BOOKS WILL BE DISCARDED

The Board voted to approve discarding obsolete books from John Muir Middle School.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT ORDER 2010-11 #03

The Board voted to approve Personnel Assignment Order 2010-11 #03.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 5-0

MEETINGS

1. Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room
2. Technology Sub-Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at TLC Room 3
3. Budget Committee Meeting on Tuesday, November 2, 2010 at 4 p.m. in the Technology Learning Center
4. Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room
5. Special Board Meeting on Friday, October 15, 2010
6. Alternative Governance Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 4 p.m. in the Board Room

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Cafeteria Report – comprehensive five-year report including revenue, expenses and any debts not yet booked, software
2. College of the Sequoias Plan for use of \$1 million
3. High School Ag Farm Facility – Plan, how it is maintained, needed repairs, animal security (second November board meeting)
4. Technology Learning Center Final Report

THE BOARD ADJOURNED FOR CLOSED SESSION 7:52 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

President Alcorn returned the Board to open session at 8:15 p.m. He announced out the following:

NEGOTIATIONS

The Board:

1. Reviewed Corcoran Faculty Association Negotiations and gave direction to District Negotiations Team.
2. Reviewed California School Employees Association No. 214 Negotiations and gave direction to District Negotiations Team.
3. Reviewed Management/Confidential Negotiations and gave direction to District Negotiations Team.

EXPULSIONS

1. The Board voted to approve the expulsion of EH 2010-11/14 for the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters with placement at Kings Community School in Hanford. Counseling services for anger management and gang affiliation are recommended. A rehabilitation plan was set with provisional readmission date of September 1, 2011.

Motion: Raul Lerma

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 5-0

ADJOURNMENT was at 8:20 p.m.

Motion: Raul Lerma

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 5-0

APPROVED: October 26, 2010

CLERK: _____

SECRETARY: _____