

**CORCORAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 26, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Steve White, Vice President of the Board, called the regular meeting of the Corcoran Unified School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Office.

TRUSTEES PRESENT/ABSENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Others present were Rich Merlo, Steve Brown, Ed Ochoa, Ken Spencer, Lora Cartwright, Mary Taylor, Chuck Gent, Elizabeth Mendoza, Dustine Borges and family, Tiffany Murburger, Jeanette Todd and Donnetta Murray.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President White welcomed those present and led the flag salute.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board approved the agenda for October 26, 2010.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 12, 2010

Approved the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of October 15, 2010

Signed the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2010

Purchase Order Numbers 110529 - 110574

Warrant register for October 8, 2010 for \$220,132.10

 October 13, 2010 for \$290,584.65

 October 15, 2010 for \$398,815.75

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

High School ASB Member Tiffany Murburger reported that Homecoming week went very well. Friday, October 29th would be the annual Fright Night. The following week would be Red Ribbon Week with activities planned for each day. Black Student Union and ASB are planning a talent show for November 6. Several sports activities have been scheduled.

WIA GRANT REPORT

High School Counselor Dustine Borges informed the Board of the WIA Grant, which funded two High School classes, Renewable Energy and Ag Manufacturing. She explained that the Renewable Energy course is hands-on, lab-style teaching with no curriculum. The teacher is collaborating with the few other teachers across the state who are teaching the same type of class. More students signed up for the Renewable Energy class than space would allow. The Ag Manufacturing class carries a pre-requisite of introduction to welding. Students will job shadow and take field trips to manufacturing companies. There are 12 students in the Ag Manufacturing class. A student must meet certain qualifications to be eligible for the WIA classes. The classes have eased the loads on other elective classes at the school. While the Ag

Department already has an Advisory Committee, one must be formed for the Renewable Energy program.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

SARB: Fremont Principal Lora Cartwright informed the Board that parents were fined a total of \$10,965 last year through the County SARB cases that went to court. Some parents are on payment plans, but once paid to the County the District receives all fines minus the court fees. The District pays the County \$5,600 per year to run the program.

CUSD Goals: Superintendent Rich Merlo reviewed the District goals for 2010-2011. Under Academic Achievement, the District is close to approaching several of the sub-goals, including 95% SCOE and 100% passing the CAHSEE. The sub-goal of 75% Fluency was set high, but there has been significant growth. Aligning Assessment to CST's has improved, but K-11's 55% CST's for English Learners fell below expectations. The District continues tracking CHS graduate's placement and retention, but the Government has cut funding for the CALPADS program. The district's goal of every student in grades 6-12 Math and English will be using a laptop computer four out of five days a week has seen a lot of growth. Planning for the master schedule for post-secondary courses for high school students in the Learning Center is in progress. The District's API of 775 appears to have been a stretch goal, but plans for a DPA this spring should help. Under Safety/Facilities, the schools continued to make safety a priority, while the campus aesthetics and landscaping are a little behind the goal set. The District will be revising the Facility Master Plan with the addition of the Ag Farm. In the area of Responsibility, programs continue to be integrated to the same levels as last year with the District Extra-Curricular Code of Ethics currently in progress at the middle and high schools.

Rural Schools Network: Mr. Merlo informed the Board that the District's involvement in the Rural Schools Network through CSU-Fresno has been a worthwhile endeavor. Mr. Merlo and Steve Brown, Director of Educational Services, have been attending meetings and visiting several other districts through the program. They have a chance to look at other classrooms, pick up great ideas, and expose Corcoran and the work that is being done at the District. Mr. Merlo commented that other districts are still talking about visiting Corcoran and the progressive programs taking place in the District.

Principals' Summit Report: Mr. Brown advised the Board that this is the third year for the District's Summit Reports. PIVOT has assisted in the process. Key questions to the principals and their leadership teams were "Where do you want to be?" and "What is your plan to get there?" Trustee Mary Wadsworth questioned whether a rotating teacher could attend. Mr. Brown stated that the principals share the report with their sites. All information and site goals come from the team that includes the teaching staff. The next scheduled Summit Report session is scheduled for January.

Resolution No. 1020: Mr. Merlo informed the Board that several superintendents are formulating a resolution as a position statement to C.I.F. on prioritizing academics in setting sporting events.

AR 5131 – Conduct: Mr. Brown reported that he researched the reason why the prescription drug Soma was listed separately as a reason for suspension/expulsion if sold. Soma is not one of the drugs included in the current California Health and Safety Code 11053-11058 and thus must be listed separately. All other prescription drugs are considered part of "other prohibited drugs." Administrative Regulation 5131 – Conduct is now in effect.

Grant: Mr. Merlo stated that the District is working on a \$50,000 grant to improve the District's data system. The grant is due Nov. 12.

DROP OUT REPORT

Eduardo Ochoa, Director of Special Services, reported on dropouts in the District. While the information is still embargoed, Mr. Ochoa was able to say that he calculated Corcoran's dropout rate to be 87% based off CalPad reports and lost transfers.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Information Items – Student Trips approved by Superintendent Rich Merlo

- a. A trip for 11 High School Academic Achievers and Academic Boosters advisors/chaperones Rae Ann Boyett, Aaron Luoma, Gabriella Cruz, Evelyn Fabrie and Pat Rodriguez to a tour of California State University-Fresno and football game on Saturday, November 13, 2010. Charter bus and expenses to be paid by Academic Boosters.
- b. A trip for 31 High School Band students and 20 John Muir band students and band directors Chad McCoy and Janet Tempas to compete in the Selma Band Review on Saturday, October 30, 2010. Requested bus transportation and expenses to be paid by CAST.

MEChA LONG DISTANCE TRIP

The Board voted to approve a long distance trip for 18 High School MEChA members and advisors Miguel Alvarez and Raymond Lerma to Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo, Pismo Beach and Avila Beach on Saturday, November 6, 2010. Requested use of two District vans and expenses to be paid by MEChA Club.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

ADOPTION OF BP 5131 - CONDUCT

The Board held the second reading and voted to approve adoption of Board Policy 5131 – Conduct.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 3-0

BP 5145.9 – HATE-MOTIVATED BEHAVIOR

The Board held the second reading and voted to approve adoption of Board Policy 5145.9 – Hate-Motivated Behavior.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 3-0

FIRST READING OF BP 5030 – STUDENT WELLNESS

The Board held the first hearing of Board Policy 5030 – Student Wellness. The policy is being updated to keep the District in compliance.

FIRST READING OF BP 3555 – NUTRITION PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

The Board held the first hearing of Board Policy 3555 – Nutrition Program Compliance. The brand new policy is mandated for any district that receives federal financial assistance in its food programs.

FIRST READING OF BP 5131.7 – WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

The Board held the first reading of Board Policy 5131.7 – Weapons and Dangerous Instruments. The mandated update of this policy reflects a new law, which requires the principal or designee to notify law enforcement when a student possesses a firearm or explosive, or sells or furnishes a firearm at school. It also reflects another new law, which expands the list of prohibited weapons and dangerous instruments to include razor blades and box cutters as well as ice picks. There is also an updated administrative regulation.

ANNUAL CERTIFICATION FOR EVALUATORS

The Board voted to approve the Annual Certification of Competency for Administrators Assigned to Evaluate Instructional Personnel.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 3-0

2010-2011 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The Board voted to approve the 2010-2011 Corcoran Unified School District Organizational Chart.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

KCOE ROP AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Board voted to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Kings County Office of Education – ROP.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

OBSOLETE MARK TWAIN EQUIPMENT

The Board voted to approve discarding obsolete equipment at Mark Twain School.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

BORGES RELEASED FROM COUNSELOR POSITION

The Board voted to approve releasing High School/College of Sequoias Counselor Dustine Borges from her current contract on October 29, 2010. Since the District was not sure whether they would fill, eliminate or change the position and would not know that information by October 29, Trustee Wadsworth moved for approval with the elimination of “pending suitable replacement or possible elimination of position” from the action item.

Motion: Mary Wadsworth

Second: Karen Frey

Board Vote: 3-0

STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRIPS APPROVED

The Board voted to approve the following staff trips on a 2-1 vote. Trustee Wadsworth was a dissenting vote because she felt if Mr. Merlo was taking a trip that would be valuable to the District, the District should be paying for Mr. Merlo’s transportation to Massachusetts and his lodging. Trustee Karen Frey agreed, but stated the exception would be the current financial situation of the District.

- a. A trip for Superintendent Rich Merlo to the *California Department of Education Instructional Rounds Network Workshop* to be held Thursday, November 4, 2010 in Sacramento, mileage to be paid by general fund.
- b. A trip for Superintendent Rich Merlo to the *2010 Instructional Rounds Institute* to be held at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Monday through Thursday, December 6-9, 2010. Conference fees of approximately \$2,000 paid by RTAC, while Mr. Merlo will be paying for transportation and lodging.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Steve White

Board Vote: 2-1 (Wadsworth dissenting vote)

MEETINGS

1. Technology Sub-Committee Meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at TLC#3
2. Budget Committee Meeting on Tuesday, November 2, 2010 at 4 p.m. in the Technology Learning Center
3. Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room
4. Finance Sub-Committee Meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Prescription Drug Policy included in District and Site Handbooks.

THE BOARD ADJOURNED FOR CLOSED SESSION 8:33 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice President White returned the Board to open session at 8:54 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 2010-11/17 for the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters with suspension of that expulsion and placement at Mission Community Day School in Corcoran. Counseling services are recommended. A rehabilitation plan was set with provisional readmission date of September 1, 2011.
2. The Board voted to approve the expulsion of EH 2010-11/18 for the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters with placement at Mission Community Day School in Corcoran. Counseling services are recommended. A rehabilitation plan was set with provisional readmission date of September 1, 2011.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 3-0

ADJOURNMENT was at 8:56 p.m.

Motion: Karen Frey

Second: Mary Wadsworth

Board Vote: 3-0