

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COTATI-ROHNERT PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING – DECEMBER 4, 2007

President Kirchmann called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM in the Gymnasium at Creekside Middle School. Call to Order

Trustees in attendance were Eric Kirchmann, George Steffensen, Karyn Pulley, Ed Gilardi and Leffler Brown. Student Board Members were absent. Trustees in Attendance

On a motion by Trustee Brown and second by Trustee Pulley, the Board voted 5-0 to adopt the agenda. Agenda Adopted

President Kirchmann reviewed guidelines for the Public Hearing and acknowledged a list of community members who have sent letters to the Board regarding school(s) closure. Public Hearing Guidelines

A Spanish Language interpreter was available in the audience for those requiring the service.

Chief Financial Officer J. Wade Roach briefly responded to questions that the Board raised at the November 13 Board meeting. He reviewed the state and federal revenue sources received by the district along with the projected deficit, and identified other areas as potential budget reductions. PUBLIC HEARING

Board President Kirchmann opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 PM on the Superintendent's Draft Recommendation made November 13, 2007 to close Gold Ridge and La Fiesta Elementary Schools at the end of this school year. The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Teresa Roberts, La Fiesta Teacher
- Shari Lorenz, Community Member
- Teresa Ruffoni and Sandy Smith, La Fiesta Teachers
- Dr. Liz Burch, PTA
- Joe Schiebold, Gold Ridge Parent
- Rosita Hernandez, La Fiesta Parent
- Denise Ybarra, Evergreen Teacher
- Tracy Franco, Community Member
- Kelly Thomas, Community Member

PUBLIC HEARING
(continued)

- Kori Miller, Community Member
(presented petitions to the Board)
- Connie Holbrook and Gold Ridge Teachers
- Carrrie Newcomer, Community Member
- Raghda Zacharia, Gold Ridge Parent
- Jane Ginn, Retired Teacher
- Melodie Mayo, Gold Ridge Parent
- Jennifer Stevens, Gold Ridge Parent
- Melody Ottolini, Gold Ridge Parent
- Jason Barbato, Community Member
- Craig Stone, La Fiesta Teacher
- Rosa Vilchis, La Fiesta Parent
- Gilberto Peron, La Fiesta Parent
- Judy Palmigiano, Community Member
- Joelle Burnette, Community Member
- Jennifer Chesley, Community Member
- Mayra Magana, La Fiesta Parent
- Charles Dudley, Santa Rosa
- Abel Moyd, La Fiesta Parent
- Marnie Poindexter, Gold Ridge Parent
- Claire Mesagno, Gold Ridge Parent
- Maria Zamudio, La Fiesta Parent
- Valerie Martinez, Santa Rosa
- Angie McKelly, Community Member
- Nancy Aiona, Gold Ridge Teacher

There being no further comment from the audience, the Public Hearing was closed and Trustees asked staff to bring the following additional information to the December 11 meeting:

- A list of what has been done by the district to this point to address declining enrollment
- Cost of portables and how they would be funded
- Address the question of whether the Board has time to wait
- Information regarding magnet schools or alternative programs
- New information regarding the possibility of mid year cuts from the state
- Explanation of charts that didn't match from the November 13th presentation
- Legal ramifications of adjusting salaries and/or using volunteers to supplant employees
- What the affect on all sites would be in program cuts if schools are not closed

- A list of the last 7 years of budget cuts the Board has made
- Information on busing
- The process that would be used for redrawing of boundaries
- If \$450,000 in program cuts were a potential alternative to closing schools, how would the district make up the remainder of the \$1.2 million needing to be cut
- District costs for the failed Measure A election and the timeline and process involved in a parcel tax measure

There being no further business President Kirchmann adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Leffler Brown, Board President

Barbara Vrankovich, Secretary

MINUTES ADOPTED: January 15, 2008