

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COTATI-ROHNERT PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –JANUARY 15, 2008

President Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM in the Creekside Middle School Presentation Hall, 5154 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park.

Call to Order

There was no community input regarding closed session agenda items.

Community Input -Closed Session Agenda

Pursuant to Government Code section 3549.1, the Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:02 PM.

Adjournment to Closed Session

Trustees in attendance for Closed Session were George Steffensen, Karyn Pulley, Ed Gilardi, Eric Kirchmann and Leffler Brown.

Trustees in Attendance for Closed Session

The meeting was reconvened to Public Session at 7:02 PM, by Board President Brown. Spanish Language interpretation was available to those needing services.

Meeting Reconvened to Public Session

There was no closed session action taken.

Closed Session Action

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Salute to the Flag

Trustees in attendance for Public Session were Eric Kirchmann, George Steffensen, Karyn Pulley, Ed Gilardi and Leffler Brown. Student Members Joseph Silveira, Kacie Lesky and Deanna Allen were present. Student Member Silveira was seated with the Board.

Trustees in Attendance

Superintendent Vrankovich requested that Consent Item 15-17, “Consider Approval of Student Readmission Case #0607-033-SE,” be removed from this agenda.

Agenda Amended and Adopted

On a motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Pulley, the Board voted 5-0 to adopt the agenda as amended. The adoption included the following Consent Agenda items:

Minutes of the Special Meeting –Public Hearing of December 4, 2007 and the Annual Organizational Meeting and Closed Session of December 11, 2007

Minutes

Personnel Action Report 0708-7a (Certificated)

Certificated PAR

Personnel Action Report 0708-7b (Classified)

Classified PAR

Approval/Denial of Interdistrict Attendance Requests

Interdistricts

Commercial Warrant Registers

Warrant Registers

Intrabudget Transfers

IBTs

Filed Williams Complaints for the October-December Quarter of 2007

Filed Williams Complaints

Student Expulsion Case # 0708-013-SE

Student Discipline

Student Expulsion Case # 0708-014-SE

Student Expulsion Case # 0708-015-SE

Student Expulsion Case # 0708-016-SE

Student Expulsion Case # 0708-017-SE

Revoking Probation and Endorsing Expulsion Case #0708-006-SE

Revoking Probation and Endorsing Expulsion Case #0708-011-SE

Revoking Probation and Endorsing Expulsion Case #0708-012-SE

Student Readmission Case #0405-054-SE

Student Readmission Case #0607-041-SE

Student Readmission Case #0607-042-SE

Student Readmission Case #0607-055-SE

Denial of Student Readmission Case #0506-040-SE

Denial of Student Readmission Case #0607-043-SE

Denial of Student Readmission Case #0607-053-SE

Denial of Student Readmission Case #0607-054-SE

Non-Public Agency Individual Service Contracts for O.T. Services for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-001-003; 005-026; & 099-0101)

Non-Public School Agency Individual Service Contracts for Specialized Instructional Aides for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-097-098)

Non-Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-096)

Non-Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-061, 092 & 093)

Non-Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-068)

Non-Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-0102)

Non Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-0104)

Corrected Non-Public School Individual Services Contract for Special Education Students (Case #0708-SP-040, 053, 054 & 0103)

Memorandum of Understanding Between Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District and Santa Rosa Junior College Petaluma Campus for Facilities Use

Memorandum of Understanding Between Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District and Santa Rosa Junior College Petaluma Campus for Facilities Use

Recognition of Rancho Cotate High School Students of the Month- Kaela Tyler and Oscar Bermudez and Technology High School Student of the Month - Michelle Atallah

Recognitions, Grants, Awards, Presentations

Deanna Allen, student representative from El Camino High School, reported on the following:

Student Member(s) Report(s)

- CAHSEE testing
- Blood Drive on January 22
- 12 students have graduated so far this school year

Kacie Lesky, student representative from Rancho Cotate High School, reported on the following:

- Winter Rally and Spirit Week
- Finals next week
- Blood Drive January 30
- January 31 is 8<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Night at Rancho Cotate HS
- February 6 Talent Show and Pasta Feed Band fundraiser
- Basketball season has begun

Joseph Silveira, student representative from Technology High School, reported on the following:

- Entire school to attend an upcoming performance at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts
- College acceptance letters are coming in for students

Correspondence received was acknowledged later in the meeting.

Correspondence

The following individuals addressed the Board on a non-agendized item:

Community Input- Non Agendized Item

- Wendy Hicks, PTA
- Dianne Borr, RCHS PTSA

With regard to item 12-A, "Consider Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation to Close Gold Ridge and La Fiesta Elementary Schools at the End of the 2007-2008 School Year and Reassign Students to Other District Schools Based on Redrawn Attendance Boundaries," Superintendent Vrankovich reviewed key parts of the process in making her recommendation; recapped the district's budget reductions made since declining enrollment began, the FCMAT report and the 7-11 Committee findings; presented an overview of the governor's recent budget proposal and how it could affect the district next year and possibly this year.

Elementary School Closures

Board President Brown acknowledged a list of letters sent to the Board from members of the community since December 11.

Elementary School  
Closures (continued)

The following individuals addressed the Board regarding this topic:

- Liz Burch, District parent
- Jodie Palmigiano, District parent

The Board asked questions of staff related to: the governor's budget cuts proposed, COLA and the district's budget; solicitation of donations; portables; if any groups have stepped forward with movement for a parcel tax; transition, staffing and class sizes after school closures.

On a motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Kirchmann, Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to close Gold Ridge and La Fiesta Elementary Schools at the end of the 2007-2008 School Year and reassign students to other District schools based on redrawn attendance boundaries.

On the motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Kirchmann, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the second reading and adopt the Multimedia Journalism Course.

Second Reading and  
Adoption of Multimedia  
Journalism Course

On the motion by Trustee Steffensen and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the second reading and adoption of the AVID Junior/Senior Seminar Course.

Second Reading and  
Adoption of the AVID  
Junior/Senior Seminar  
Course

On the motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the second reading and adoption of the Skills for High School Success Course.

Second Reading and  
Adoption of Skills for High  
School Success Course

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the Physics Course for Rancho Cotate High School.

First Reading to Adopt the  
Physics Course

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the Physics AP Course for Rancho Cotate High School.

First Reading to Adopt  
the Physics AP Course

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the Chemistry AB Course for Rancho Cotate High School.

First Reading to Adopt the Chemistry AB Course

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the AP Chemistry Course for Rancho Cotate High School.

First Reading to Adopt the AP Chemistry Course for RCHS

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the Medical Terminology/CPR-First Aid Course.

First Reading to Adopt Medical Terminology/CPR-First Aid Course

On the motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Steffensen, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the Introduction to Health Science Occupations Course.

First Reading to Adopt the Introduction to Health Science Occupations Course

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the first reading to adopt the McDougal Littell California Focus on Science Series for Students in Grades 6 through 8.

First Reading to Adopt McDougal Littell Science Series

With regard to item 13-A-11, "Consider Discussion of Rancho Cotate High School's WASC Mid-Term Review," Rancho Cotate HS Principal Joseph Williams reported on the 3 year mid term progress report for Rancho Cotate High School's WASC Accreditation. Team members will be on site in March to visit the school and programs. A report will be brought back to the Board after the March visit.

WASC Mid Term Review Discussion

Trustees requested that in a year's time staff bring back a full report on the progress of the school's goals.

With regard to item 13-A-12, "Consider the Appointment of a Board Member to the District's Strategic Plan for the Arts and Music Committee," a motion was made by Trustee Brown to nominate Karyn Pulley to the committee. Eric Kirchmann expressed interest in serving as an alternate. Trustee Gilardi made an amended first motion which was seconded by Trustee Brown to appoint both Karyn Pulley and Eric Kirchmann to serve on the District's Strategic Plan for the Arts and Music Committee. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Board Member Apptment to Committee

With regard to item 13-A-13, "Consider Approval of 2007-2008 Arts and Music Block Grant Spending Plan," the following individual addressed the Board:

- Mark Galipeau, District teacher

On a motion by Trustee Gilardi and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the 2007-2008 Arts and Music Block Grant Spending Plan.

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve the second reading and adoption of revised Administrative Regulation 1312.4 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures.

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees voted 5-0 to approve receipt of 2007-2008 Reopeners from Service Employees International Union Local 1021 (SEIU).

On the motion by Trustee Steffensen and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve corrective action of 2006/07 Audit Recommendations Concerning Finding 07-1 Student Body Gate Receipts and Finding 07-2 Attendance Scantrons.

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Gilardi, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to authorize the filing of Categorical Exemption(s) Under C.E.Q.A. Relating to the Transfer of Gold Ridge Elementary School Students.

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Pulley, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to authorize the Filing of Categorical Exemption(s) Under C.E.Q.A. Relating to the Transfer of La Fiesta Elementary School Students.

On the motion by Trustee Pulley and second by Trustee Steffensen, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve change order #3 for Rancho Cotate High School Auto Body Project #05036.00, in the amount of \$24,728. At the suggestions of Trustees, staff will look into the potential of shifting part of the change order cost to other involved agencies.

On the motion by Trustee Kirchmann and second by Trustee Steffensen, Trustees and Student Member voted 5-0 to approve gifts and donations to schools and district.

2007 Arts and Music  
Grant Program

Second Reading and  
Adoption of AR 1312.4

07-08 Reopeners from  
SEIU

Audit Corrections

C.E.Q.A. Exemption  
Relating to Transfer of  
GR Students

C.E.Q.A. Exemption  
Relating to Transfer of LF  
Students

Change Order #3

Gifts and Donations

Superintendent Vrankovich reported on the following:

Superintendent's Report

- Many thanks to the Maintenance and Operations staff who worked over the holiday break after the storm to assure minimal gutter, heating and roof leak problems at schools on the first day back.
- Attended an awards ceremony where 3 Rancho Cotate High School students were honored as first place winners of a countywide RESIG Art Contest in conjunction with the Charles Schulz Museum. The students' artwork is displayed in the RESIG calendar that goes out to all Sonoma county schools.
- Recent lunchtime visits to M. Hahn, Monte Vista and La Fiesta
- Staff will be watching Sacramento carefully as more updates on the budget become available.

Ed Gilardi

Board Communication  
Other Reports

- Attended the forum on drugs that was hosted by RCHS PTSA

George Steffensen

- Continues to attend meetings of the Strategic Plans for the County Career Tech Program committee
- Would like to call upon the momentum of parents who have come forward during the school closure process offering ideas to prevent the district from having to close any more schools

Leffler Brown

- Following up on Trustee Steffensen's suggestion, he asked board members to begin thinking about a planning workshop to discuss the formation of a committee to study ways to keep and attract students to the district. Superintendent Vrankovich noted she would bring a board item to the February 5 meeting for trustees to discuss selection of a workshop date.
- Attended the Education Foundation New Year's Eve fundraising event. The next Education Foundation fundraiser is coming up on February 9 and everyone is encouraged to attend.
- Attended the RCHS winter music presentation

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Other Reports:

- Enrollment Report Summary- CFO J. Wade Roach noted the decline continues
- Interdistrict Report – update was given and it was noted that the numbers over the next few months will reflect both this year and next year
- Update of Draft Timeline and Proposed Activities and Actions Related to Declining Enrollment and Potential School Closure(s)- December items completed. Additional Board dates added for the consideration of revised school boundaries: February 19 Public Hearing on the proposed revision of boundaries that will be brought forward at the February 5 meeting; a Special Board Meeting on February 26 to approve the revised boundaries. In addition, an amendment will be made to page 4 of the timeline for February (page 187 of the agenda), to change “Consider *recommendations* of alternate uses for school(s)...” to “Consider *preliminary discussion of* alternate uses for school(s)...” Trustee Gilardi noted that he will be in Washington D.C. the first week of February and therefore will miss the meeting of February 5.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Other Reports

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

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Leffler Brown, Board President

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Barbara Vrankovich, Secretary

MINUTES ADOPTED: February 5, 2008

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**CLOSED SESSION MEETING ACTIONS**

**Governing Board Meeting Held** (Date, Time, Location): January 15, 2008 7:05 PM, Creekside Middle School Presentation Hall, Rohnert Park.

- a. With respect to a closed session held pursuant to Section 54956.7:

*LICENSE/PERMIT DETERMINATION*

Number of Applicant(s):

Action Taken:

- b. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8:

*CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR*

Property(Address, Parcel #, Other ID):

Under negotiation (Check one):  Price  Terms of Payment  Both

Action Taken:

- c. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.9:

*CONSIDERATION OF ADVICE FROM COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO - EXISTING LITIGATION*

Name of case (Claimant's name, names of parties, case or claim numbers):

Action Taken:

or Case name unspecified (Check one): Disclosure would jeopardize:

service of process or  existing settlement negotiations

Action Taken:

*CONSIDERATION OF ADVICE FROM COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION*

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9

Specify number of cases:

Action Taken:

Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9

Specify number of potential cases:

Action Taken:

- d. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.95:

*LIABILITY CLAIMS*

Name of Claimant (s) (Unless unspecified pursuant to Section 54961):

Action Taken:

- e. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957:

*THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES*

Name/Title of Law Enforcement Officer consulted with:

Action Taken:

*PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT*

Title(Description of position to be filled):

Action Taken:

*PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT*

Title(Description of position to be filled):

Action Taken:

*PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION*

Title(Position title of employee being reviewed):

Discipline Action Taken Against Employee:

*PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/ RELEASE*

Discipline Action Taken Against Employee:

- f. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957.6:

*CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR*

Name of Agency Negotiator:

Name of organization representing employee:

Action Taken:

or Position title of unrepresented employee who is subject of negotiations:

Action Taken:

g. With respect to closed sessions pursuant to Section 54957.8:

*CASE REVIEW/PLANNING*

Action Taken:

h. With respect to every item of business discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54962 and Sections 1461, 32106, and 32155 of the Health and Safety Code or Sections 37606 and 37624.3 of the Government Code:

*REPORT INVOLVING TRADE SECRET*

Discussion will concern (Check all that apply):  proposed new service;  new program;  new facility  
Estimated date of public disclosure (Month and Year):

Action Taken:

i. With respect to closed sessions pursuant to Section 49070 (c) of the Education Code:

*PARENT CHALLENGE TO CONTENT OF PUPIL RECORDS*

Decision to deny parent challenge sustained.

Decision to deny parent challenge overturned

j. With respect to every item of business discussed in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 3549.1:

*COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SESSION*

Action Taken: NONE

k. With respect to closed sessions pursuant to Section 48912 of the Education Code:

*CONSIDERATION OF STUDENT SUSPENSION OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION -  
NOT EXPULSION*

Action Taken:

l. With respect to every item of business discussed in closed session pursuant to Education Code Section 48918(c):

*CONSIDERATION OF STUDENT EXPULSION*

Action Taken:

m. With respect to every item of business discussed in closed session pursuant to Education Code Section 35146

*CONSIDERATION OF STUDENT MATTER-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INVOLVED*

Action Taken:

Respectfully submitted,

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Leffler Brown, Board President

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Barbara Vrankovich, Secretary