

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
March 17, 2015  
REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes

Attendance: Region 9 Board of Education members: Colangelo, D'Agostino, Hancock, Johnston (8:00 pm), King, Lewis  
Administration: Josefsberg, McMorran, Sullivan, Pierson Ugol, Czudak, Geraghty, Pin, Sheehy, and department heads  
Others: five members of the community, a representative of the Redding Pilot/Easton Courier and videographer

Mr. Hancock called the meeting of the Region 9 Board of Education to order at 7:02 pm in the Joel Barlow Media Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 24, 2015 meeting as submitted. Lewis, Colangelo. Approved. Unanimous.**

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting as submitted. Lewis, King. Approved. Unanimous.**

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 9, 2015 meeting as corrected. Colangelo, D'Agostino. Approved. Unanimous.**

Correction: page 3, Public Comment, Mr. Coppinger

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Hancock reported that the French trip to Quebec went very well and a good time was had by all.

Mr. Johnston arrived during the discussion below (8:00 pm)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2015-16 OPERATING BUDGET

Dr. McMorran began the discussion, reviewing the initial budget proposal with a 3.16% increase which was reduced to 2.78% as a result of technical edits. Two additional technical edits in private & public tuition have reduced the increase to 2.74%. Consideration of a reduction in the Capital Fund transfer of \$45,000 would reduce the increase to 2.54%.

Dr. McMorran itemized further potential reductions for consideration. These ranged from reductions in the athletic program, an offset from parking fees, an increase in the amount of excess cost to be received, reduction of AV tech support person, reductions in textbooks, library books & supplies, elimination of Physics field trip, and reduction in one security position.

Board members asked questions and discussed the various options. No action was taken.

DISCUSSION OF STUDENT SUCCESS PLANS AND SCHOOL TO CAREER PATHWAYS

Dr. McMorran and Paula Panos presented an overview of Student Success Plans and School to Career Pathways. The goal of the program is to build a plan to link school and community through shared

resources. This includes internships, job shadowing opportunities, project development consultation with experts and professionals, off-campus study, content-based instruction in real-world settings, and enhanced opportunities to give back. Students will have the opportunity for exploration of future careers.

#### DISCUSSION OF SMARTER BALANCED TEST SCHEDULE FOR 2015

The "Smarter Balanced" testing window opened this week. All junior students will be required by state mandate to take the English Language arts/literacy assessment on April 30 and May 1. The Mathematics assessment will be taken on May 26 & 27.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent, Head of School: Special Education Director, Patti Roszko, provided a report on Special Services, including the number of students being served, the number of referrals received, number of students exiting the program, and the number of student services meeting held. She noted that the staff is also working on transition meetings with the staffs of Helen Keller Middle School and John Read Middle School. Students from the lower schools will have opportunities to visit the school and sit in on classes. Parent meetings are planned for June.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs. Pierson Ugol reported that a parent meeting to review the new math program was held recently in Easton, and another is planned for Redding. The K-12 Library Media Specialists are reviewing the role and use of the media center, and how changes and improvement

Director of Finance and Operation: Mrs. Sullivan reported that the short-term notes are maturing in April. The outstanding balance, \$4,320,000 for the Stadium Project and Roof Restoration Project, can be reduced to actual expenditures of \$4,018,579. That amount plus interest & fees, bring the total to \$4,041,000 that will be borrowed in April 2015, with a maturing date of January 2016. Mrs. Sullivan noted the Roof Replacement Project, pending approval, will result in \$1,041,000 to be borrowed. This amount will also have a maturing date of January 2016.

Mrs. Sullivan noted that Health Insurance Claims have been averaging \$185,000, close to the budget amount of \$190,000. The Transfer Report reflected transfers primarily for the athletics program based on end of season expenditures.

Superintendent: Dr. Josefsberg reported that there are discussions at the State Department of Education regarding that would impact the MBR requirement and the amount of allowable reduction in appropriation. Dr. Josefsberg participated in a Tri-State Consortium visitation to the Weston schools and a study of the math curriculum. He noted that although all the schools in Weston are on the same campus, there are still problems with arranging cross-district professional development, curriculum development and staff meetings.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Dana Gray, Redding: Mrs. Gray addressed the board with her interest in retaining the girl's assistant tennis coach and the Physics field trip.

Heidi Armster, Easton: Mrs. Armster commented on the importance of the long term health of the education system.

Jeanne Wendschuh, Redding: Mrs. Wendschuh spoke of the importance of the writing paraprofessional position, noting that writing skills and quality are important for all students.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. King suggested the board consider a review of the number of board and committee meetings and the time involved in those meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: move that the meeting be adjourned. Colangelo, King. Approved. Unanimous.**

The meetings were adjourned at 9:07 pm

Submitted by Catherine Gombos, Board Secretary  
Recorded by Mary Maday