

Coarsegold Union School District
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REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2006
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: RIVERGOLD ELEMENTARY

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairperson Sue O'Connor. All present stood and Mrs. O'Connor led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Board: Sue O'Connor, Greg Schoonard, Christine Wilder, John Reynolds and Kathy Casey

Staff: Bill McCabe, Srini Vasan, Bob Rose, Randy Haggard, Pat Hansen-Sedor, Diane Sefton, Earlene Ward, John McMillen, Meg King, Linda Webster, Mary Gomez, Stephanie Smittle, Mary Ann Englehart, JoAnne Steffke, Sally Simpson, Kathy Costin, Ed Costin, Kathy Anderson, Valerie Porter, Kay Emmert, Rich Sischo, Cheryl Airey, Irene Keener, Sherry Graves, Mary Jo Brown, Virginia Smith, Angela Moons, Jessica Medrano, Jon Corippo, Rachel Boswell, Joyce Struthers, Penny McKeand, Julie Davis, Gina Hansen-Sedor

Audience signed in: Linda McFadden, Susan Martyn, Joe Szabadi, Wanda Pierce, Nathaniel Pierce, Scott Browar, Don Beck, Vicki Bordwine, Mimi Beck, Nimai Black, Jessica Boyer, Keri Sartoris Rodriguez, Cynthia Salso, Kristi Kramer, Trudi Cacy, Kristi Bohna, Julie Johnson, Doreen Blanchard, Ana O'Day, Lori Marcum, Darin Fayne, Tammera Halpern, Bret Black

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was requested that Closed Session 10.0 be moved to 4.1.

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve the agenda as amended. The voice for approval was unanimous.

GOVERNANCE NORMS

Board President Sue O'Connor reminded everyone of the Governance Norms.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 6:35 p.m.

Ratify Student # 004470 Suspended
Expulsion – Coarsegold

A motion was made in closed session by John Reynolds and seconded by Greg Schoonard to ratify the Suspended Expulsion of Student #004470 – Coarsegold as presented with a unanimous voice vote for approval.

Ratify Student #001086 Suspended
Expulsion – Rivergold

A motion was made in closed session by John Reynolds and seconded by Greg Schoonard to ratify the Suspended Expulsion of Student #001086 Rivergold as presented with a unanimous voice vote for approval.

Accept Resignation Agreement –
Certificated

A motion was made in closed session by Christine Wilder and seconded by John Reynolds to accept the resignation agreement with Susie Dooman as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Craven Assignments

A motion was made in closed session by Greg Schoonard and seconded by John Reynolds to approve the Craven Assignments as presented. The voice vote for approval was Casey, O'Connor, Schoonard and Reynolds – aye; Wilder – opposed. Motion carried.

Retirement Settlement – Certificated

A motion was made in closed session by John Reynolds and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve and grant a retirement settlement for Doug Rudholm. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Ratify 5-hour Bus Driver/3-hour Custodian **A motion was made in closed session by Christine Wilder and seconded by Greg Schoonard to ratify Stacy Stanford as a 5-hour Bus Driver/3-hour Custodian. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.**

Ratify 8-hour Custodian **A motion was made in closed session by Christine Wilder and seconded by John Reynolds to ratify Lisa Robertson as an 8-hour Custodian. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.**

Conference with District Negotiator (Superintendent) Certificated/Classified/Management **A motion was made in closed session by Greg Schoonard and seconded by Christine Wilder to ratify and adopted the District's tentative agreement with CTA2. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.**

Placement 39 month Reemployment List No action taken.

OPEN SESSION The meeting was reconvened to open session at 7:17 p.m.

District Superintendent Bill McCabe reported out action taken in closed session by the Board.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Bret Black read and presented a petition in support for teachers to urge the Board to demonstrate their support also. He also indicated that he heard the offer to the teachers was zero. He continued by questioning how each Board Member voted on the tentative agreement.

After a brief informational clarification about no board discussion by the Board President, District Superintendent Bill McCabe reported that the vote for the District's tentative agreement with CTA2 was unanimous.

Don Beck spoke that the offer to teachers was basically an additional \$2 per day and if he was offered that he would quit.

An unidentified woman expressed her disdain for the zero offer to teacher then to suddenly give an offer of 7% that something was very wrong and the State needs to get auditors in and should be on the next agenda to have that happen.

Another woman with children at Coarsegold School expressed her support for teachers, to make them a priority and to heal the riff and start communication.

Mary Ann Englehart expressed her disappointment that two Rivergold students had made a presentation at the Yosemite Unified Board Meeting to have after school buses re-established and had not made a presentation to staff at both schools to ask for staff input first.

Rich Sischo thanked all the parents for their support otherwise the teachers would not have gotten any movement by the District even though the tentative agreement was not what was hoped for. He also expressed that there was a riff between teachers and the board especially with three Coarsegold Board members on the Unified Board and it would take a lot of work to repair. He continued by berating the Board for the length time closed session took to go through the agenda.

Stephanie Smittle expressed her discontentment with the process and felt insulted by the tentative agreement. She continued that when becoming a teachers the level of what is put into education and not to be paid accordingly and to settle for 2% when 4% is what should have been offered. She also complained about the insurance costs and that Board Members have a better package and are not paying out of their pockets like teachers. She concluded that the Board shouldn't think she could easily be replaced and if they really valued their staff they wouldn't just talk about it they would prove it.

Anna Odell a new parent at Coarsegold School expressed that she believes Coarsegold is one of the best schools of education and presented a petition from parents supporting the teachers.

Board President Sue O'Connor indicated that there seems to be a lot of miscommunication and misunderstood positions; that she wished to clarify that there was never a zero percentage offer that there was always a percentage offered. She also indicated she believes that the Board and Superintendent always work to do what is best for our kids and that she does appreciate parent's passion about our school and encouraged continued participation and thanked everyone for coming out to the board meeting.

Mr. Black expressed his frustration that it seemed nobody returns phone calls and there doesn't seem to be a way to get a hold of board members.

Mr. McCabe reviewed the tentative agreement with the audience of 7% compensation for this current school year that showed clearly staff was valued. He also indicated that he knows the benefit package is low for Coarsegold and has stated that many times, but that in negotiations \$2500 towards benefits had been part of one of the offers and it was rejected. He continued by having a little conversation about the ending balance process and the reasons for fluctuations, the anticipated one time State settlement with school districts and ending the year with a 6% reserve.

REPORTS

PRESENTATION

Bryan Baker presented a follow up report on his Eagle Scout Project of placing a water fountain in the lower basketball area. He reported on the donated materials, the total cost of about \$1200, the number of other scouts who helped, and noted the project was completed completely accident free with approximately 236 hours working on the project. He concluded by thanking the Board for allowing him to do the project.

STUDENTS

None

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

None

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chief Business Officer Srini Vasan reviewed the discussion of the Budget Committee which met earlier today. The Committee's main discussion was on the Governor's State Budget which looks good with one time money coming to school districts.

CERTIFICATED/CLASSIFIED STAFF

None

MANAGERS

Principal Bob Rose thanked Yosemite High School, Rich Sischo, Kay Emmert and parents for the wonderful track meet, he reviewed upcoming graduation activities, noted that testing was completed this week, that the Talent Show try outs were held earlier today, that the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be May 31st and on June 2nd will be the Band and Choral Performance. He expressed that he was sorry he wasn't at the last board meeting but was in sunny Catalina with the 8th graders.

Principal Randy Haggard noted Coarsegold was also busy. He thanked Mr. Bell for all his efforts on coordinating testing, reported on the upcoming fund raiser of Movie Night, thanked Terry Gambriel and Irene and crew for their hard work at the Rodeo, that the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be June 2, that there is an upcoming school wide barbeque, that June 6th & 7th is the 8th grade trip to San Francisco, that Graduation would be June 16th and that construction was impacting life at Coarsegold School daily. He continued by noting an upcoming curriculum meeting and thanking PTA for staff appreciation activities last week and reporting on the "Day of Doc" celebrating Doug Rudholm and invited board members to come on June 2nd.

MOT Director John McMillen reported on the annual inspection.

Superintendent Bill McCabe reported on the busy month of May, the positive comments about Irene and staff feeding the kids at the Rodeo, attending the Golden Apple Awards where the Rudd's were honored for their contributions at Rivergold School and the numerous Coarsegold students at the high school who validate the great job the District has done including the Pittman Award going to Lauren Cano. He continued by thanking Kay Emmert and Bob Rose for the great job with the track meeting and thanked the negotiations team for their efforts. He reported that tomorrow he and Srimi would be meeting with Louisa Parks at the Office of Public School Construction regarding the joint use funds. He concluded with the schedule of area graduation dates and times.

BOARD

Greg Schoonard expressed that he was disappointed that so many people left before he could convey his thoughts that anytime you go through a collective bargain process it isn't fun and is difficult and complicated, but never has he ever had his integrity and creditability challenged and the personal aspects that happened surprised him. He continued by stating he does support teachers and staff, but the financial health of the District is his stewardship as a board member. He further responded that he was surprised to hear that he receives health benefits for being on the Board of \$12,200, because he was not receiving those benefits. He also wanted the teachers to know if there is a riff we need to find away to mend that and he was committed to do the best job that he can because what this is all about is the education of students.

John Reynolds thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the Golden Apple Awards, that he has spent time lobbying in Sacramento on current issues that affect rural school districts and that he was invited to come back to discuss the one time three billion dollar short fall owed which, at this point, is targeted to go to low performing schools which is not a good deal. He also noted that he does return every phone call. He continued by reviewing our District's income level which is the second lowest in Madera County and that he has always worked in a professional manner in negotiations. He explained the State windfall that prompted the tentative settlement and the process of negotiations. He also noted that in January the State could take and has taken money back in the past.

Christine Wilder invited as President of the Unified Board the parents to continue to be involved and attend the Steering Committee Meeting on May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. She talked about the entire negotiation process and noted that this time was particularly nasty and not professional in any manner that the correct information needs to flow on how things work.

John Reynolds added that the collective bargaining process is bound by requirements.

Sue O'Connor suggested that the topic be agendized to place on the Website to inform the public on the process.

Kathy Casey also added that she always responses to e-mails and phone calls and is in the phone book.

Mr. Black stated that he called every Casey and Wilder in the phone book.

Mrs. Casey continued by thanking Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Jacks for the High Tea at Coarsegold and how much fun, what a blast and how educational the Catalina trip was. It was so well planned, but did want to thank Jason Longcor for the bus rescue. She continued by stating parents need to come to every meeting, be involved and be a part of the whole picture.

Sue O'Connor also reiterated what Kathy stated that she encouraged parents to participate, to understand the process of schools and concluded by apologizing for the length of closed session and the wait, but there were important issues on the agenda that needed consideration and shouldn't be rushed through.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.6 as presented.

- 7.1 Approve Commercial Payment Order
- 7.2 Approve Payroll
- 7.3 Approve Budget Transfers
- 7.4 Approve Meeting Minutes - April 19, 2006
- 7.5 Accept Donation from Srini Vasan – Educational Software and Library Books
- 7.6 Approve as Surplus Property: Cargo Container, Office Trailer and 1988 Van

The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Break

A break was declared at 8:40 p.m.

Reconvene

The meeting was reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

BUSINESS

School Accountability Report Card (SARC) **A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by John Reynolds to approve the School Accountability Report Cards for Rivergold, Coarsegold and Meadowbrook Community Day as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.**

Construction Multi-Purpose Building
– Coarsegold
Ratify Inspector
Ratify Testing Lab
Ratify Earthwork

It was noted that John Reynolds abstained from the discussion and in the voting process.

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to open for discussion the construction project on the multi-purpose building.

Mr. McCabe indicated that Bill Moore was the inspector who already has been working on other projects for the District and would like to have him continue and that BSK was the Testing Lab. Both the inspector and the testing lab would be at hourly rates and the earthwork for the project would run approximately \$85,000. He further added that school construction funds can only be spent on construction and not for employees or other items that are not part of construction.

There was a brief discussion on the rising costs, joint use funds and continuing the project vision to have a comparable stage facility as at Rivergold.

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Greg Schoonard to ratify 8.2.1 Inspector, 8.2.2 Testing Lab and 8.2.3 Earthwork as presented. The voice vote for approval was Casey, O'Connor, Schoonard and Wilder – aye; Reynolds – abstain. Motion carried.

Construction – Rivergold
Approve Earth Work
Authorize going to Bid on Electrical

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve 8.3.1 Earth Work - site preparation for modular buildings for approximately \$15,249 and 8.3.2 Authorization to bid electrical for expanding the panel for 7 modular classrooms at Rivergold as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Board Policy
BP 5123 Promotion/Retention & Testing

A motion was made by John Reynolds and seconded by Christine Wilder to approve as the first reading BP 5123 Promotion/Retention & Testing as presented.

There was a brief discussion on the policy changes and it was noted that the complete policy for both old and new for the promotion/retention and the GATE would be brought back at the next board meeting and would be presented to the Unified Board also.

The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

GATE Criteria

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve as the first reading the GATE Criteria as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Summer School Plan/Schedule

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to approve the Summer School Plan and Schedule as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

New School Bus

Sue O'Connor questioned why the Coarsegold Board would be approving a new bus for next year and not the Unified Board. There was continued discussion with Virginia Smith and Mary Jo Brown addressing bus size, capacity issues, the new regulations on shoulder harnesses and the driver's ability to monitor students.

A motion was made by Greg Schoonard and seconded by Christine Wilder to authorize the expenditure of \$130,000 from the ending balance for the purchase of a new school bus.

John Reynolds questioned why not use put the spares buses on line instead of adding another bus. It was noted that the impact would be on field trips, break downs and other activities by not having any spare buses.

The voice vote for approval was Casey, Wilder, Schoonard and O'Connor – aye; Reynolds – opposed. Motion carried.

Procurement of Maintenance Equipment
For the Maintenance Department

There was a brief discussion on the needs for the requested equipment. It was also suggested adding in an annual rotation strategy plan for equipment repairs and replacement needs in the Unified Budget. John Reynolds questioned why maintenance equipment can't come out of Deferred Maintenance. Srini Vasan noted that you can't buy equipment from Deferred Maintenance. There was further discussion on using rental equipment and sharing between sites and the logistics that applied.

A motion was made by John Reynolds and seconded by Christine Wilder to authorize the expenditure of maintenance equipment for Coarsegold and Rivergold Schools as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Painting School Buses

A motion was made by John Reynolds and seconded by Christine Wilder to approve repainting three school buses as presented. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

New/Replacement Maintenance Building
Coarsegold

It was noted that John Reynolds abstained from the discussion and in the voting.

Mr. McCabe reviewed the request for the new maintenance building at Coarsegold and noted that the area around the old maintenance sheds was part of the modernization component and indicated how funding for that project could be used. He added that he was requesting authorization to go out to bid on the new maintenance shed.

There was further discussion and it was requested additional information be presented on the costs to take down the old sheds.

A motion made by Greg Schoonard and seconded by Christine Wilder to authorize going out to bid on a new maintenance building. The voice vote for approval was Casey, O'Connor, Schoonard and Wilder – aye; Reynolds – abstain. Motion carried.

Board Workshops & Activities
Curriculum Institute – July 7th & 8th
Discussion Legislative Action Conference

This was Board information only.

INFORMATION

Update on Textbook Adoption

Randy Haggard presented information on this item.

Update Construction Projects

This was an information item.

Update Schools
Enrollment

This was an information item.

Discipline

This was an information item.

Update Budget/Developer Fee Funds

It was noted that a special meeting for a Public Hearing on raising developer fees to the statutory limit will be held on May 31st at Coarsegold.

Update After School Clubs

This was an information item.

Update on Yosemite Joint Unified

This was an information item.

Board Meeting

This was an information item only.

Master Calendar

This is a place marker and information only item.

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

A special meeting will be held on May 31, 2006 at Coarsegold Elementary – 6:30 p.m.
The next regular meeting is June 21, 2006 at Coarsegold Elementary – 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Christine Wilder and seconded by Kathy Casey to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Secretary/Clerk