

WASHINGTON COLONY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Trustees

Pete Mathew, President
Gary Chavez, Clerk

Mark Aguilar, Member
Bob Dack, Member
Liz Faccinto, Member

Secretary

Craig Bowden, Superintendent

Regular Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Washington Colony School, **Cafeteria**
130 E. Lincoln Avenue
Fresno, CA 93706

Persons wishing to address the Board of Trustees on a subject to be considered at this meeting, including any matter that may be designated for public hearing, are asked to notify the Washington Colony Elementary School District Office (see telephone/fax numbers below) by noon of the third working day before the scheduled meeting/hearing, stating the subject they wish to address, the organization they represent (if any), and the nature of their testimony. Time is set aside for individuals so desiring to speak on any topic NOT otherwise on the agenda. In all cases, the presiding officer reserves the right to impose time limits on presentations as may be necessary to ensure that the agenda is completed.

REASONABLE ACCOMODATION FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a meeting or function of the Washington Colony Elementary School District Board of Trustees, may request assistance by contacting the WCESD Office, 130 E. Lincoln Avenue, Fresno, CA 93706; telephone (559) 233-0706; fax (559) 233-9583.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Board President, Pete Mathew.

II. Roll Call

Absent: BD

Present: MA, GC, PM, LF

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gary Chavez.

IV. Routine Items

A. *Approve Agenda*

The agenda for the October 14, 2014, Regular Board Meeting, was approved on a motion by Liz Faccinto, seconded by Mark Aguilar. (MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0; Abstentions: 0; Absent BD)

B. Adopt Minutes

Minutes of the September 9, 2014, Regular Board Meeting, and the September 19, 2014, SPECIAL Board Meeting were adopted on a motion by MA, seconded by GC. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

C. Public Comment/Board Comment

Public –

Mark Marquez – asked when board minutes will be posted to website, hasn't been updated since March last year.

Jeff Dronyk – on behalf of classified staff...thanked board for considering salary increase

Jamie Perry – Senior Director fiscal services at FCOE; oversight for districts in Fresno County; usually attend board meetings when there's a problem; here to let board know what a great job fiscal dept and supt Bowden are doing; reports turned in on time/accurate; any questions at all staff calls and often Mr. Bowden is involved in solutions; payroll dept said one of best districts in county; strong desire of WC staff to do what is right; wanted to let board know how nice it is to work with the staff and how nice the district

Jeff Brotnov – Purchase orders; robotics team at WC; began 2 seasons with grant from county; fundraiser last year raised approximately \$1,000; prior to school starting began process to register; all PO's done and ready; back to school supplies not in and PO's not in process; realize there are bigger priorities but team is behind others in preparation; balls dropped along the way; should be some sort of mechanism to speed up the process; suggested pre-paid debit card (still doing paper/pencil with PO's); just received materials 2 weeks ago; asked board to explore other **alternatives to processing requests more quickly**

Board – No comment

D. Correspondence

A letter from Elaine Merhten was introduced.

V. Reports/Discussion/Information

A. Administration/Business/Governance

1. Board History – C. Bowden

Written report

2. Financial Report(s)*

Written report

3. 2014-2015 Financial Information**

None

4. Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints*

Written report

5. Unification Procedure and Process** - Maiya Yang, FCOE

Maiya Yang, Fresno County Office of Education, Legal Counsel, shared the details of the entire reorganization process with those in attendance. She described two process: 1) when there is board support, and 2) when the board opposes reorganization (petition). At the end of the presentation Maiya and the Board entertained questions from those in attendance.

Questions:

- 1) With respect to the petition signatures, does the 25% in each district mean that some are duplicated if they live in both districts? *Answer:* There are 2 separate territories in question which requires 25% from each individual district to be counted. All can be placed on the same petition. The person gathering the signatures is not required to live in the district, but all those who sign must live in and be registered voters in, the district.
- 2) If unification passes, would Washington Colony have only one representative on the newly unified board? *Answer:* Washington Unified School District board already has one member representing the Washington Colony area. This would not necessarily change with unification. However, if unification were to take place, the current Washington Colony District would cease to exist.
- 3) How were Washington Unified District boundaries drawn? *Answer:* It was developed based on the latest census data at that time. The intention was to balance equal numbers of voters in each district.
- 4) For board members, are you agreeing to unify? Where do you stand on the issue? *Answer:* The board is going through the process as individual members for each to decide where he/she stands on the issue. With the large amount of information presented and the serious nature of this topic, the board will take time until the next board meeting to process through the information, conduct additional

individual research (cannot talk to each other or work together due to Brown Act regulations), and come to terms as to where each stands. During the November and/or December board meeting the board will conduct an additional Discussion/Information session and subsequently take action in support of reorganization or in opposition to reorganization.

6. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Bowden shared the following information:

- 1) He recently participated in a meeting through Small School Districts Association (SSDA) and a representative from the Legislative Analysts Office (LAO) in Sacramento. The focus was to share with disproportionate impact of the “reserve spend down plan” on small school districts. Requiring small school districts to spend down a healthy reserve potentially places small school districts in financial jeopardy due to the limited options small districts have as opposed to the multiple options larger may have. This could potentially become a cash flow issue in small districts.
- 2) During the same trip to Sacramento, Mr. Bowden met with representatives from Capitol Advisors, a group including former State Superintendent, Jack O’Connell. The focus was to share the disproportionate impact of newly implemented regulations through the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) which lower the threshold in which districts are required to request bids for “construction projects” of many types, require contractors to pay a \$300 registration fee to the DIR, and require contractors to pay prevailing wage to employees on those projects. This will have a negative impact on the many community based, small businesses that many districts utilize.
- 3) Mr. Bowden attended the “Gas Tax Forum” held October 14, in Clovis. The focus was to gain information on the implementation of the gas tax under the “Cap and Trade” umbrella. Cap and Trade is under Proposition 32 which requires industry in California to reduce emissions. As part of this program, businesses receive an allotment of emissions they are allowed. If a business use less than their allotment, that business is allowed to share the excess with a business who uses more than it’s allotment. Under this umbrella, a “gas tax” has been included. This tax will range from an estimated \$.09 to as much as \$1.70, or more. This is important for our district to understand as it relates to increased cost of providing transportation. The district is on a “fixed income for transportation” and must account in the budget for any increased costs such as the additional funds required during each fill up with the new gas tax. This will amount to \$3,000-5,000 additional in transportation in addition to the already increasing cost of providing transportation.
- 4) Last, Mr. Bowden shared progress on the joint water project to form a water system with Washington Unified School District. Both districts

are experiencing water quality issues as well as increased regulations for water testing. The project design is completed and a draft document to form a Joint Power Agreement (JPA) to oversee and monitor the system is under review. A meeting to discuss is forthcoming and will lead to a finalized JPA plan and the formation of the newly created Easton Community Water System Authority.

B. Personnel/Students

1. ADA/Enrollment Report*

Written report.

2. Suspension Report – G. Daniels

None

*Denotes written information/report of a routine nature which will be addressed upon request of the Board

** Denotes an oral report which may or may not include written back-up.

VI. Action Items

A. Administration/Business/Governance

1. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Education Protection Account (EPA) Expenditure Plan

Resolution 14/15-08 *Regarding the Education Protection Account* was adopted on a motion by Mark Aguilar, seconded by Liz Faccinto. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

2. Warrants

Warrants paid for the period September 1 – September 30, 2014, were review and ratified on a motion by Liz Faccinto, seconded by Gary Chavez. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

3. Board Member Appointment

Due to an insufficient number of candidates running for Area 5, the board appointed Pete Mathew to fill the board seat in that area on a motion by Liz Faccinto, seconded by Gary Chavez. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF; Noes: 0, Abstentions: PM; Absent: BD)

4. Board Meeting for November, 2014

In observation of Veteran's Day, the Regular Board Meeting for November, 2014, was rescheduled to Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m on a motion by Gary Chavez, seconded by Liz Faccinto (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

B. Personel/Students**1. Interdistrict Attendance Permit Requests**

Superintendent's actions on Interdistrict Attendance Permits for the 2014-2015 school year were ratified on a motion by Liz Faccinto, seconded by Gary Chavez. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

VII. Closed Session

The board entered closed session at 8:23 p.m. on a motion by Mark Aguilar, seconded by Gary Chavez. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

The board came out of closed session at 9:33 p.m. on a motion by Mark Aguilar, seconded by Gary Chavez. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

VIII. Reconvene**A. Mandated Report(s) by Board President****1. Salary Increase Agreement (Classified Employees)**

During the closed session held earlier tonight, the board ratified salary increase agreements with Classified Employees on a motion by Liz Faccinto, seconded by Mark Aguilar. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

2. Salary Increase Agreement (Classified Management Employees)

During the closed session held earlier tonight, the board ratified salary increase agreements with Classified Management Employees on a motion by Gary Chavez, seconded by Liz Faccinto. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

3. Salary Increase Agreement (Preschool Management Employees)

During the closed session held earlier tonight, the board ratified salary increase agreements with Preschool Employees on a motion by Gary Chavez, seconded by Liz Faccinto. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. on a motion by Gary Chavez, seconded by Mark Aguilar. (Ayes: MA, GC, LF, PM; Noes: 0, Abstentions: 0; Absent: BD)