

**Cottonwood Union School District
20512 W. First Street
Cottonwood, CA 96022**

MINUTES for Tuesday, MAY 20, 2014, 6:00 P.M.
Regular Board Meeting, West Cottonwood Library

Members Present: Mr. Iles, Mr. Kohler, Mr. Lucero, Mrs. Semingson
Members Absent: Mr. Vazquez
Others Present: Superintendent Lowden
Principals: Both absent.
Laura Merrick, Business Manager
Staff: Five staff members were present along with approximately forty-seven community members and students.

The board met in Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

- C.S. 1.0 Mr. Iles called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
C.S. 2.0 Public Forum: There were no public comments at this time on Closed Session items.
C.S. 3.0 Closed Session: The board met in closed session to consider and/or take possible action on:
Item 3.1: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957,
Public Employee Appointment – Superintendent
Item 3.2: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6,
Conference with Labor Negotiator: Board President
Unrepresented Employee: Superintendent

The closed session ended at 6:25 p.m. and the door was opened for the public to come in.

- 1.0 Call Regular Meeting to Order** – Mr. Iles called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Public Notice of Action Taken in Closed Session

Mr. Iles announced that the following action took place during the closed session:

- Item 3.1 **ACTION:** Mr. Kohler made a motion to appoint **Dr. David Alexander** as the new Superintendent; the motion was seconded by Mr. Lucero.
VOTE: Four yes votes, zero no votes, one absent (Vazquez).
- 2.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Iles led the flag salute.
- 3.0 Approval of Agenda**
Mr. Lowden asked that a Public Hearing be added to Item 7.2.
ACTION: Mrs. Semingson moved, seconded by Mr. Kohler, to approve the agenda as presented.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.
- 4.0 Recognition (Students, Staff, Curriculum Review)** – Mr. Lowden recognized the Star Performers from North Cottonwood School; fifteen students were present to be honored. **Mrs. Jan Anderson**, Title I teacher, was also recognized as she will be retiring at the end of the year.
- 5.0 Public Forum/Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board** – None at this time.
- 6.0 Consent Agenda**
6.1 Review of Consent Agenda
6.1.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for:
Regular Board Meeting held on April 22, 2014; and
Special Board Meeting held on April 29, 2014
6.1.2 Approval of Commercial Warrants
6.1.3 Approval of the **YMCA** Contract for the After-School Program at North for 2014/15.

- 6.2 Approval of Consent Agenda
ACTION: Mr. Kohler moved, seconded by Mr. Lucero, to approve the consent agenda.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

7.0 Discussion/Action Items:

- 7.1 **Consider ratification of employment agreement with Superintendent.**
ACTION: Mr. Kohler moved, seconded by Mr. Lucero, to approve the employment agreement with the Superintendent.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.
- 7.2 **Public Hearing – Presentation of Common Core State Standards Spending Plan.**
Mr. Iles opened the **public hearing** for comments on the common core spending plan. There were questions from Mrs. Kizer about what technology was being considered for purchase (chrome books, laptops, etc.). Mr. Lowden shared that the bulk of these funds will most likely be spent on new Math textbooks and English/Language Arts for the upper grades. If there were still funds available, technology would be the second priority for the common core funding. The plan will be brought back next month for final approval.
- 7.3 **Discussion/Action on the Handling of Unpaid Cafeteria breakfast/lunch charges.**
Mr. Lowden shared that we recently had a state audit of our cafeteria program. As follow up to that audit, the board has been asked to review the accounts receivable portion of the cafeteria budget. Currently, there is \$19,000 outstanding in unpaid breakfast/lunch charges. Mr. Lowden explained that an alternate lunch can be provided to students whose charge account becomes excessive. He also explained that the General Fund could be used to pay the amount due on the reduced students lunch cost. (Federal funds are not allowed to be used to pay this however.) The board asked questions and discussed the current collection policies of the district. No action was taken at this time. The board recommended Dr. Alexander, Mrs. Andrews (Cafeteria Director) and Mrs. Merrick discuss and come up with some steps of action.
- 7.4 **Consider approval of the Annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2014/2015 school year.**
ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mr. Kohler, to approve the Annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2014/2015 school year.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.
- 7.5 **First Reading of Board Policies/Administrative Regulations.**
BP 0200 Goals for the School District (all new)
BP/AR 3260 Fees and Charges
BP 3280 Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property
AR 3460 Financial Reports and Accountability
BP 5131.62 Tobacco
BB 9324 Minutes
BP 6151 Class Size
AR 6151 Class Size (Delete)
- 7.6 **Consider approval of the following personnel actions for the 2014/2015 year:**
Hire a 0.5 FTE RSP Teacher
Increase a 0.5 FTE PE Teacher to 1.0 FTE
ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mrs. Semingson, to approve the personnel action requests for 2014/2015.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

8.0 Informational Items:

8.1 CTA Report: Mrs. Boilon told the board Mrs. White had injured her knee, would be having surgery and was out for the remainder of the year. She wondered if the Math curriculum would be ordered before the end of the year so teachers would be trained before the start of school in the fall. She emphasized the need for training on the new curriculum. She said the teachers were sad to see Mr. Lowden leave. They also want to welcome Dr. Alexander to Cottonwood!

8.2 Superintendent's Report: Mr. Lowden reported 1) Smarter balance testing is finished, 2) there will be two board meetings necessary in June (17th and 24th) to approve the LCAP, 3) New buses are here and our fleet is 100% compliant, 4) Mrs. Merrick and Dr. Alexander attended the May Revise Workshop today, 5) the Community Center is seeking a grant from the McConnell Foundation to put in a bridge over the Crowley Gulch, and 6) a 7th grade student was recently diagnosed with leukemia. He is at UCSF getting treatment and was visited by two teachers and the school counselor over the weekend. There is a quilt raffle being held to help raise funds for medical expenses.

8.3 Principal's Report:

Both principals were absent. Mr. Lowden mentioned a few upcoming events: Track meet tomorrow, Graduation on June 6th at 10 a.m., Open House is Thursday at North Cottonwood.

9.0 Information/Communication Items: Two monthly pooled investment reports were included.

10.0 Governing Board Discussion Items: Mr. Lowden said the draft of the LCAP will be on the district web page in the next few days for the public to see, review, and comment.


11.0 Future Meetings:

11.1 Regular Board meeting, **Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 6:30 p.m.** in the West Cottonwood School Library, 20512 W. First Street, Cottonwood, CA 96022.
Special Board meeting, **Tuesday, June 24, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.** in the West Cottonwood School Library.

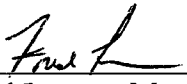
12.0 Closed Session: None at this time.

13.0 Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


Approved: June 17, 2014



Matt Iles, President



Fred Lucero, Member



Tom Vazquez, Member

Gerald Kohler, Clerk



Judy Semingson, Member