



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 27, 2012 Volume 23 – Number 11

Personnel Actions Ratified by the Board:

The employment of:

Kari Hendon, Temporary Resource Specialist on Internship Certificate at Crossroads Elementary effective March 5, 2012; Christine Perez, Bus Driver, effective date to be determined

The retirement of:

Carol Jorgensen, Instructional Paraprofessional Learning Assistant at Somerset Middle School, effective May 25, 2012; **Carol Jorgensen**, Instructional Paraprofessional - ASES at C.F. Brown Elementary, effective May 25, 2012; **Michael Crisp**, Head Custodian at Sanders Elementary, effective June 9, 2012

The placement on Paid Administrative Leave of:

Classified Employee #08-11/12 effective February 27, 2012 to March 8, 2012

Other Items Approved by the Board of Trustees:

- ❖ The Minutes of the March 6, 2012, 2012 Regular Board Meeting and the March 13, 2012 Special Meeting.;
- ❖ The ratification of personnel items;
- ❖ The ratification of checks as listed;
- ❖ The approval of the Student Teaching Agreement with Grand Canyon University;
- ❖ The approval of contracts with Solution Tree for District Administrators and Teacher Leaders to receive training to enhance instructional effectiveness and student achievement;
- ❖ The approval of the employment agreement with Debra Fusco to serve as the District's Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the period commencing July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013;
- ❖ The approval of the School Safety Plans as per Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0450;
- ❖ The approval of the agreement with Stanislaus Office of Education to provide 922 Plan Services for expelled students for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015;
- ❖ The approval of the purchase of two (2) 25-passenger buses and two (2) 20-passenger buses to be used to provide Special Education Transportation Services;
- ❖ The approval of Crowe and Horwath to provide audit services for the 2011-2012 year only;
- ❖ The approval of the construction documents for the Sherwood Elementary School Modernization project;
- ❖ The acceptance of the C.F. Brown Modernization Project at C.F. Brown Elementary School as being complete; and authorize staff to execute the Notice of Completion;
- ❖ The approval of the expenditure of construction funds;

Other Items Approved (Con't)

- ❖ The recommendations of the Administrative Hearing Panel on the following student matters:
 - Student 2011/2012 – AH # 18
- ❖ The recommendations of the Readmission Hearing Panel on the following student matters:
 - Student 2011/2012 – RH # 05
- ❖ The approval of the listed donations:
 - The donation of a payroll pledge of \$108.00 from Ryan Gutierrez (Parent) to Crossroads Elementary School.
 - The donation of \$100.00 from Michael and Janelle Christie (Parents) to Crossroads Elementary School for instructional materials.
 - The donation of \$480.00 from Agricultural Awareness & Literacy Foundation to Freedom Elementary School for field trips.
 - The donation of \$351.76 from Freedom PTA to Freedom Elementary School for art supplies.
 - The donation of \$144.00 from Denise Meyer (Employee) to Stockard Coffee Elementary School.
 - The donation of four (4) Dell keyboard/mouse valued at \$114.34 from Stockard Coffee PTA to Stockard Coffee Elementary School.
 - The donation of \$880.00 from Sylvan PTA to Sylvan Elementary School for school supplies.
 - The donation of 13 books signed by author/illustrator valued at \$208.00 from Renee Ousley-Swank for each school (13) in the Sylvan Union School District.

TOTAL VALUE OF DONATION: \$2,386.10

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees:

**#21: Proclaiming March 2012 as
"Arts Education Month"**

#22: Resolution of Intention of the Board of Trustees of the Sylvan Union School District to Convey an Easement for Utility Purposes and Calling a Public Hearing in Connection Therewith

RECOGNITION PRESENTATION:

The school selected to be recognized at the Board Meeting was Orchard Elementary School. Ms. Price shared lots of good things are happening at Orchard Elementary School and announced the following accomplishments

At Orchard they are all about "Learning for All" and learning is happening at Orchard! This year they were able to show five points growth in API which went from 844 to 849. What's even more exciting is that all significant subgroups achieved an API score above 800.

Orchard School has embraced the challenge of becoming a Professional Learning Community. In fact, the PLC model has begun to trickle into the classroom where students study in Positive Learning Communities. All site teams have identified operating norms and like wise in the classroom, classroom rules are being replaced with classroom norms. This is very exciting. The staff at Orchard participates in weekly collaboration. During collaboration conversation spirals around four questions:

1. What do we expect students to learn?
2. How will we know if they have learned it?
3. How will we respond when they don't learn?
4. How will we respond when they do?

Additionally, becoming a Title One school this year has allowed for additional resources to address the academic needs of students. In collaboration with leadership last year, they identified the need for an Instructional Facilitator. They also identified the need to have a Data Wall to help identify student's progress. Stepping up to lead in this charge was Stephanie Byars. As the Data Director Queen of Orchard, she has been instrumental in making sure that data of all kind is available to teams. As a result every conversation about student achievement and student academic needs begins with the phrase "our data shows".

Using the results of data they have implemented a Reading intervention program where Learning for All is evident. All classroom and supplemental teachers including the Instructional Facilitator work together so that all students receive 30 minutes of Language Arts intervention four days a week. Students are placed in either intensive, strategic, benchmark or challenge groups based on preliminary assessments and are moved based on Common Formative Assessments. They truly see learning for all is happening at Orchard.

Celebrations are deeply embedded in the culture of Orchard. Each trimester they have an assembly to publically recognize those students making the honor roll, or exhibiting excellent citizenship and life skills. Their weekly spirit assembly is attended by students and families and gives the opportunity to share academic and social successes.

RECOGNITION (Con't):

Orchard Owls are privileged to be supported by a wonderful PTA who sponsors many of the activities that make school inviting and fun. A short list of these activities includes carnival night, class learning trips, talent shows, assemblies and, monetary grants to teachers for classroom supplies.

As a learning community, the parent volunteers are a critical part of student success at Orchard. At any given time you will see several committed volunteers working with small groups. In second grade, teachers conduct weekly math stations in which parents assist students with standards based hands on math activities. This weekly math intervention would not happen without the community they have built with parents. Is it working? Since implementing math stations the percentage of second grade students performing at proficient and advanced has increased from 63 to 74. In fact, all sub groups showed a huge increase in math the most impressive was students with disabilities who demonstrated a 36% growth in students performing proficient and advanced. After careful analysis of the data, they plan to implement this model in other grades as well.

To sum it up, Orchard Elementary is very proud to be a community of families who focus on "Learning for All".

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Facilities Report:

Mrs. Perez asked if the Board had any questions. The Board had no questions.

b. Second Reading – Board Policies:

The Board and staff conducted a "second reading" of the March and July 2011 Board Policies updates. Adoption of the updates will be April 24, 2012.

c. Food Service Update:

The Board was presented an update on the Food Services program.

d. Boundary Discussion:

The Board was presented with a draft timeline for possible boundary adjustments. Mrs. Zeek asked to add two items to the Boundary Committee Responsibilities as follows:

1. Minimize disruption to families.
2. Communicate well too all stakeholders.

The Board gave direction to staff to begin the process if a boundary adjustment is needed.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION (Con't):

e. Review Board Policy 3350: Travel Expenses:

The Board reviewed and discussed Board Policy 3350: Travel Expenses. The Board gave direction to staff to bring back data regarding conferences and costs for review and discussion at the next Board Meeting.

f. Discuss Graduation Options for 2012-2013:

g. Current Districtwide Communications:

Mrs. Zeek requested to table this *Discussion items f and g* until the next Board Meeting due to time constraints.

h. Initial 2012-2015 CSEA Contract Proposal:

Public Disclosure: The Sylvan Union School District and the California School Employees Association, Chapter #73 are preparing to open bargaining of the 2012-2015 labor contract.

Ms. Fusco shared with the Board in order for formal negotiations to commence; the Board of Trustees must hold a public hearing of proposals so that members of the public are provided an opportunity to comment. That public hearing will take place at the next regular Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Comments: Dr. Halverson shared the following:

- The artwork on display in the Boardroom is from the students of Standiford Elementary School.
- The Annual Spring Trustees' Dinner is April 19, 2012. Dinner begins at 6:30 P.M. at the Petersen Event Center.
- Congratulations to:
Darlene Pierson of Sherwood
Lynda Griblin of Standiford

for being chosen as finalists in this year's Stanislaus County Teacher of the Year Program. The awards luncheon will be held on May 8, 2012.

Board Reports:

Mr. Rawe had nothing to report.

Mrs. Miyakawa congratulated the Enochs High School marching band for being selected to march in Washington D.C. and most are Sylvan Union School District students.

Board Reports (Con't):

Mrs. Lindsey encouraged everyone to attend the Annual Spring Trustee Dinner on April 19th. She shared there is a movement with C.S.B.A. for the delegates to visit the local offices of legislators.

Mr. Collins had nothing to report.

Mrs. Zeek thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

April 24, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Boardroom.