

County Board of Education
Ronald L. Stewart Center
77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, California
June 4, 2008

ROLL CALL: Pamela Mirabella, Area 1 Trustee; David T. Krapf, Area 2; Daniel Gomes, Area 3 Trustee; Glenn Ruley, Area 4 Trustee; and Daniel Borsuk, Area 5 Trustee

Absent: None.

Others: Joseph A. Ovick, Ray Penning, Susan Magnone, Michael Bowers, Peggy Marshburn, Judy Parker, Launi Holland, and Laura Dorsey Huerta, County Office staff; parents of Students A-6/4/08 and B-6/4/08; Dr. Rejois Frazier-Myers, Pittsburg Unified School District; and Ruth Carver, Hilary Hibel, and Alisa MacCormac of Walnut Creek Schools Together Now. A partial list of attendees is on file at the County Office of Education.

Presiding: Glenn Ruley, Board President

The regular meeting of the Contra Costa County Board of Education was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION The Board adopted the agenda with the following amendment: Item 8.1, Minutes of May 21, 2008, were removed from the Consent Agenda in order to be handled separately (M/S: Borsuk/Mirabella).

PUBLIC COMMENT Ruth Carver of Walnut Creek Schools Together Now spoke to the assertion that Walnut Creek has five school districts while most cities have only one. She stated that the overriding fundamental reason for the proposed transfer of territory from the Mt. Diablo Unified School District to the Walnut Creek School District and the Acalanes Union High School District is that the City of Walnut Creek deserves an organization similar to that already enjoyed by many other cities. She noted a number of reasons for the proposed transfer that were outlined in a letter from Mayor Regalia to the County Committee on School District Organization dated April 3, 2008. She requested that a process be established whereby meetings, workshops, or other venues could be scheduled at which the affected school districts and cities would have opportunities to communicate their issues and concerns to best determine how they can be amicably resolved.

CLOSED SESSION
Interdistrict Attendance Transfer Appeal The Board convened in closed hearing at 6:52 p.m. to consider the interdistrict attendance transfer appeals of parents for their children, Students A-6/4/08 and B-6/4/08, from the Pittsburg Unified School District to the Antioch Unified School District. The Board recessed to closed deliberation at 7:20 p.m. The Board reconvened to closed hearing at 7:32 p.m. and immediately to open session. On behalf of the Board, Hearing Facilitator Launi Holland announced that the Contra Costa County Board of Education voted 3 to 2 (Mirabella and Krapf dissented) to uphold the interdistrict attendance transfer appeals of Students A-6/4/08 and B-6/4/08 based upon CCCOE Board of Education's Administration Regulation 5200(D)(3.15) (continued enrollment in the desired district would promote an important level of continuity that is in the best interest of the students).

RECOGNITIONS None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT Report Joseph Ovick, Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools, reported that he was not present during the last Board meeting because he had been invited to attend a Performing Arts Awards Night at Adams Middle School in Brentwood; the students had written the scripts, directed the films, and acted in them along with faculty members; and he was impressed with the quality of the films. He also reported on the following: he has recently participated in seven rallies in

opposition to the governor's proposed budget; Ray Penning and he attended a meeting today with a group of superintendents that represent all four SELPAs in Contra Costa County to look at an adolescent day treatment program that needs to be made available through the public schools system; he noted that both Mt. Diablo USD and West Contra Costa USD currently have programs that are working very well, but the 15 districts in the Contra Costa SELPA are looking to establish a similar program; there is also a current need in Mt. Diablo USD, West Contra Costa USD, and San Ramon Valley USD for more spaces for children rather than sending them to nonpublic schools; he reported that the CCCOE will probably not be the primary provider of this service; today he had an opportunity to speak with Dr. Bruce Harter, superintendent of West Contra Costa USD, regarding that district's future operation of the two community school classes that the CCCOE is currently operating; the CCCOE will be working with them to make a smooth transition of the services; lastly, he reported that he has begun his visits with each of the Teachers of the Year in the county, that he has already completed five such visits, there are 22 Teachers of the Year countywide, and that this is the 13th year that he has personally participated in the program.

**BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES**
County School Service Fund (CSSF)
Investment Activities

Judy Parker, Director, Business Services, presented an update on the County School Services Fund (CSSF) Investment Activities for the quarter ending March 31, 2008, and asked if Board members had any questions. Mr. Borsuk asked what the figure \$224,151 in red indicated, and Mrs. Parker responded that this represents the child development fund; the agency is simply waiting to be reimbursed for the amount that has been paid out of this fund. Mrs. Mirabella asked what was meant by "repurchase" on the graph on page 4, and Mrs. Parker stated that it was part of the LAIF report, and, therefore, she would need to check on that.

Staff Report

On behalf of Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster, Dr. Ovick reported that the Business Services Department is working to complete the agency's budget, which will be coming to the Board at its June 18 meeting, and everyone is carefully watching the Legislature and the governor to see whether changes will be made to the proposed state budget prior to June 30; additionally, the local school districts have indicated that they do not anticipate experiencing a cash flow problem during the summer months if the state budget is not approved on time; however, if the state budget is not approved by autumn, several of the districts may begin experiencing cash flow problems; and he emphasized that this is an issue that will affect all school districts in the state, not just the districts in Contra Costa. Lastly, Dr. Ovick reported that the Board needs to consider scheduling a meeting of the Contra Costa County Committee on School District Organization in order to hear the petition concerning the establishment of separate trustee areas in the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD), since the Elections Office would need to know of the County Committee's recommendation by August 8, 2008, in order to place it on the November ballot, which would save the WCCUSD \$167,377 if it were included in the general election. He reported that the Elections Office is currently in the process of verifying signatures on the petition. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to schedule a hearing on this matter on July 9, 2008. Mr. Gomes asked if all of the interested parties that Mrs. Carver had referred to under Public Comment might be encouraged to submit their written materials prior to the July 23, 2008, meeting of the County Committee, and Dr. Ovick responded that he would need to check with Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster since she is handling this matter. Mrs. Mirabella asked for clarification on the matters that would be heard by the County Committee on July 23 and September 10, and Communications Officer stated that the Walnut Creek resolution would be heard at the hearing scheduled for September 10 and that the Committee would consider Mrs. Carver's request to have the Committee take on her formerly submitted petition as its own on July 23.

**STUDENT PROGRAMS AND
SERVICES**
Staff Report

Ray Penning, Associate Superintendent, Student Programs and Services, gave the following report: Board Member David Krapf and he attended the transition ceremony involving a program that is operated jointly by both the Mt. Diablo USD and the COE for students of 22 years of age who are leaving the public school system; he has been contacted by the State Department of Education that it, as part of a federal review, has been notified that its department has not done enough monitoring of special education in court schools; as a result, a team comprised of four consultants from the State Department of Education will spend five days at the COE in June to review records of special education students at Juvenile Hall and Byron Boys Ranch; he stated that he would share the results of the review with the Board; he

commended staff members Launi Holland and Janice Jarski for working with the Pittsburg USD to help resolve the conflicts surrounding the interdistrict attendance transfer requests that were denied; as a result, rather than the initial 96 anticipated appeals involving Pittsburg USD interdistrict attendance transfer requests, that number has been reduced to six or seven anticipated appeals. Mr. Penning then distributed envelopes to the Board containing court documents that were served on him, on behalf of the individual Board members, and he noted that this matter would be addressed in a Closed Session at the June 18 Board meeting. Mr. Ruley inquired about the number of anticipated hearings at upcoming Board meetings, and Mr. Penning provided current numbers.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
Staff Report

Dr. Susan Magnone, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, gave an update on the upcoming summer camps, which are being offered through a very successful partnership with the Contra Costa Council, Diablo Valley College, and California State University—East Bay. She reported that the engineering summer camp will be held June 16-20 at Diablo Valley College and is completely full with 60 students signed up to attend, and the biotechnology summer camp, which is also at capacity with 60 students enrolled, will be held in July at California State University—East Bay's Concord campus. She shared with the Board that the summer camp program began four years ago when it was hoped that enough students would be interested in participating, and now the program is so successful, the camps fill up early and there are waiting lists.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Staff Report

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, presented the Initial Proposal from Public Employees' Union, Local One, for Reopener Agreement and the Initial Management Proposal for Reopener Agreement with Representatives of the Classified Units. He noted that the initial proposals involve two articles (salary and benefits) and that this matter would come back for a public hearing at the Board meeting scheduled for June 18.

Staff Report

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, reported that a large number of employees will be retiring, with several of them exceeding 30 years of employment with the County Office of Education. Those retirees include Nancy Pierce, a teacher at Marchus School since 1986; Dan McCarthy, a school social worker at Marchus School since 1977; Camille Rodriguez, an instructional assistant at Mauzy School since 1993; Linda Apostol, a teacher at Turner Elementary School since 1975; Janet Finsilver, an AVID coordinator in the Educational Services Department since 2001; Liz Rusk, director of AVID in the Educational Services Department since 1999; Sue Peterson, an ROP teacher since 1981; Cherie Viets, school administrative assistant at Delta Vista High School since 1997; and Ray Penning, Associate Superintendent of Student Programs and Services, since 1989. Mr. Bowers also reported that he attended a board of directors meeting for the California Education Committee on Healthcare Reform and that the speaker from the Oregon Education Benefit Board spoke about a model in which California districts and COEs might be interested. He explained that this model is currently going through the California legislative process (AB 256) and seeks to establish the single insurance pool for the education community in California, and that this is the model that will be implemented shortly in Oregon since its governor signed SB 426, a similar bill to California's AB 256. He noted that SB 426 represents a statewide insurance pool for all employees and eligible retirees of Oregon's school districts and education service districts, which are like county offices of education in that state, with oversight and management of the pool performed by the Oregon Education Benefit Board. In addition to being able to use Oregon's program as an example of the process being considered in California, the Oregon Education Benefit Board has indicated a willingness to share some successful resources that they have used and to talk to California school districts about what to avoid based on Oregon's experiences. He promised to keep the Board informed on AB 236's progress.

COMMUNICATIONS
Staff Report

Peggy Marshburn, Chief Communications Officer, distributed copies of an article that was published in the *West County Times* about the petition to establish trustee areas in West Contra Costa USD. She then reported that Shirley Dang, the *Contra Costa Times* education reporter who has been reporting on education for the past 5-6 years, has left the Times.

BOARD
Legislative Update

None.

CONSENT ACTIONS
Minutes of May 21, 2008

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda in order to be handled separately by the board. The Board voted to approve the minutes of May 21, 2008 (M/S: Krapf/Gomes; Mirabella and Borsuk abstained).

County Board of Education
June 4, 2008

**Contra Costa Adult School Diplomas
and a Contra Costa High School
Diploma; and Public Gifts**

The Board voted to approve/accept/grant the following Consent Actions: granting of Contra Costa Adult School Diplomas to adult school students CCAS 1 6-04-08 and CCAS 3 6-04-08 from Contra Costa Adult School program and a Contra Costa High School Diploma to adult school student CCAS 2 6-04-08 (M/S: Mirabella/Krapf).

**CORRESPONDENCE/
EVENTS CALENDAR**

Correspondence: None.

Calendar of Events: June 6 – CEP Graduation & Awards Ceremony, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Marchus School; June 11 – Contra Costa Adult School Awards, 9:30-11:30 a.m., West County Detention Facility; June 12 – Contra Costa Adult School Awards, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Marsh Creek Detention Facility; June 19 – WIA Graduation, 6:00-7:30 p.m., CCCOE Board Room; September 5 – Staff Development Day, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m., El Campanil Theatre, Antioch, September 16 – Contra Costa Adult School Awards, 9:30-11:30 a.m., West County Detention Facility; September 18 – Contra Costa Adult School Awards, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Marsh Creek Detention Facility; September 25 – Teacher of the Year Dinner Celebration, Concord Hilton. Mr. Borsuk, Mr. Ruley, and Mrs. Mirabella indicated that they planned to attend the Marchus CEP Graduation & Awards Ceremony on June 6.

**BOARD REPORTS OF
ACTIVITIES**

No written reports of activities were submitted by Board members. Mrs. Mirabella expressed disappointment that two community school classes in West Contra Costa will no longer be operated by the COE, and she commended staff for trying to find sites and to provide for West Contra Costa's alternative education needs. She stated that she intends to speak with a number of community members and visit the boot camp in Oakland to see what it looks like; she invited Dr. Ovick and Dr. Bloom to accompany her if they would like. She also asked if she could accompany Dr. Ovick on his visit to the Teacher of the Year in West Contra Costa; however, Dr. Ovick indicated that he has already visited that particular teacher while Mrs. Mirabella had been out of town. Lastly, she asked that the packet for the County Committee meeting that she would miss on July 23 be sent to her at least a week before that meeting so that she could have time to review and comment on the materials. Dr. Krapf reported that he attended the graduation ceremony for the transition students, and, as usual, it was a great event and he always enjoys the videos that are shown each year highlighting each student. Additionally, he shared with the Board that he attended a meeting in East Contra Costa on special education that had been put together by parents and involved a presentation by a law firm on "Special Education 101 for Parents," which elaborated on how to communicate and collaborate with school districts. He expressed some disappointment in the content. Mr. Ruley reported that he had appeared in two articles, one involving the Food Bank and another involving Joan Buchanan's campaign.

RECESS

The Board recessed from 6:42 p.m. to 6:52 p.m. prior to convening to Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Joseph A. Ovick, Ed.D., Ex Officio Secretary
County Board of Education

Copies of all resolutions adopted by the Board are on file in the Office of the Superintendent, Ex Officio Secretary of the Board of Education.

These unadopted minutes are summaries and excerpts from the regular meeting of June 4, 2008, and are subject to amendment and/or correction prior to the approval of the County Board of Education.