

**County Board of Education**  
**Ronald L. Stewart Center**  
**77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, California**  
**July 9, 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:** Ellen Elster, Karen Sakata, Susan Magnone, Michael Bowers, Kale Alderson, Diane Misasi, Rhonda Dunning, Jerome Collins, Will Hynes, and Laura Dorsey Huerta, County Office staff; Charles Cowens of Citizens for Positive Education Change; Elizabeth Wadsworth, Concord; and Nathan Padilla, Concord. 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 6:01 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

The Board adopted the agenda with the following addition: Mrs. Mirabella requested that a the Board meeting be adjourned in memory of Elin Ovick, the wife of County Superintendent Joseph Ovick (M/S: Krapf/Mirabella).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Charles Cowens, a parent from the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) and a member of the Citizens for Positive Education Change, thanked the Board for taking the time to hold a hearing (while sitting as the Contra Costa County Committee on School District Organization) on July 2 to consider his group's proposal to change the method of governance of the WCCUSD. He also stated that he looks forward to working both formally and informally with members of the County Board to continue to discuss this issue. Mr. Ruley commented that the offices of Senator Torlakson and Assemblymember Hancock have offered to facilitate any meetings of the various interested parties concerning this matter. Elizabeth Wadsworth then spoke in opposition to the proposed transfer of territory from the Mt. Diablo Unified School District to the Walnut Creek School District and Acalanes Union High School District, and she asked the Board to deny Ruth Carver's request that the County Committee initiate its own school district reorganization at the July 23 meeting and to deny the petition at the September 10 meeting. Mrs. Elster clarified that the July 23 meeting issue has been combined with the matter being heard on September 10; therefore, the July 23 meeting has been cancelled.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Interdistrict Attendance Transfer Appeal of Student A-7/9/08**

This appeal was cancelled because the Antioch Unified School District agreed to accept the interdistrict attendance transfer request of Student A-7/9/08.

**Interdistrict Attendance Transfer Appeal of Students B-7/9/08 and C-7/9/08**

This appeal was cancelled because the Antioch Unified School District agreed to accept the interdistrict attendance transfer requests of Students B-7/9/08 and C-7/9/08.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**Granting of Contra Costa County High School Diplomas**

The Board voted unanimously to grant Contra Costa County High School Diplomas to high school students GGCS 1-07/09/08, GGCS 2-07/09/08, GGCS 3-07/09/08, GGCS 4-07/09/08, and DVHS1-7/9/2008 (M/S: Mirabella/Krapf). High school student GGCS 3-07/09/08 did not attend the ceremony. Associate Superintendent Karen Sakata welcomed the families and friends of the graduates and introduced Principals Kale Alderson and Diane Misasi. Delta Vista High School Principal Misasi introduced Teacher Rhonda Dunning, who provided some background on high school student DVHS1-7/9/2008's educational attainments. Golden Gate Community School Principal Kale Alderson then introduced Teacher Jerome Collins, who described high school student GGCS 2-07/09/08's accomplishments. Lastly, Principal Alderson provided some educational background on high school student GGCS 4-07/09/08, as Teacher Lou Guida had been unable to attend the ceremony. Ms. Sakata and Board President Glenn Ruley presented the graduates with their diplomas and conveyed their congratulations.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**SUPERINTENDENT**

**Report**

On behalf of County Superintendent Joseph Ovick, Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster reported that Dr. Ovick was very appreciative of the Board members' attendance at his wife's memorial service and would be happy to learn that the Board had adjourned the meeting in Elin Ovick's memory.

**BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**Budget Augmentation**

Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster introduced this item and explained that Communications Officer Peggy Marshburn had worked with the Y and H Soda Foundation to secure this grant. The Board then voted unanimously to accept a budget augmentation in the amount of \$23,750 received from the Y and H Soda Foundation for the California Scholastic Journalism Initiative and the expansion of their high school journalism initiative in West Contra Costa County (M/S: Borsuk/Mirabella).

**Staff Report**

Deputy Superintendent Ellen Elster reported that this is the time of year when all of the districts have had their budgets approved, and now they are working on closing the books for fiscal year 2007-08 and getting ready for the unaudited actuals.

**STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

**2008-2009 Consolidated Application, Part 1**

Karen Sakata, Associate Superintendent, Student Programs and Services, introduced this item and reviewed the various parts of the Consolidated Application. Mr. Gomes asked how one determines that a student is a "low-income" student, and Ms. Sakata explained that the figure used to identify "low-income" students is determined by the number of students who receive free and reduced lunches. The Board then voted unanimously to approve the 2008-2009 Consolidated Application, Part 1 (M/S: Borsuk/ Krapf).

**Staff Report**

Karen Sakata, Associate Superintendent, Student Programs and Services, reported that the verification review by the State Department of Education of CCCOE's special education programs in juvenile court schools took place on June 23 and 24; they reviewed over 30 files from Mt. McKinley and Delta Vista High School and interviewed staff members, including the principals, teachers, and speech language pathologists at both sites; the preliminary findings indicate that some small changes will need to be made in a few areas, such as to begin using the revised forms (Transition Plan form and "Notice of IEP Meeting" form) and the need for staff training on these revisions; she noted that some of the needed changes would be implemented before the final report is received in September; and she would present the findings of the final report to the Board at that time.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**Staff Report**

Dr. Susan Magnone, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, reported that this is a fairly quiet time for her department with a number of staff members involved with the Biotechnology Summer Camp at California State University, East Bay, some staff members participating in a training, and others on vacation.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Staff Report**

Michael Bowers, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, reported that summer school is in session and that there are two teaching positions available for the upcoming school year.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Staff Report**

None.

**BOARD**

**Legislative Update**

None.

**Policy and Regulation 1312.4**

The Board voted unanimously to adopt/approve Policy and Regulation 1312.4: Community Relations – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures, which was presented for second reading (M/S: Mirabella/Borsuk).

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**CONSENT ACTIONS**

**Minutes of June 18, 2008; Adult School Diplomas; High School Diplomas; and Temporary County Certificates**

The Board voted to approve/accept/grant the following Consent Actions: minutes of June 18, 2008; Contra Costa Adult School Diplomas to adult school students CCAS 1 7-9-08 and CCAS 2 7-9-08; Contra Costa County High School Diplomas to high school students CCAS 3 7-9-08, MM1-7/9/2008, and MM2-7/9/2008; Temporary County Certificates (M/S: Borsuk /Gomes).

**CORRESPONDENCE/  
EVENTS CALENDAR**

**Correspondence:** None.

**Calendar of Events:** September 5 – Staff Development Day, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m., El Campanil Theatre, Antioch; September 10 – meeting of the Contra Costa County Committee on School District Organization, Acalanes High School gymnasium; 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.

**BOARD REPORTS OF  
ACTIVITIES**

No written reports of activities were submitted by Board members. All Board members reported that they had attended the memorial service for Elin Ovick. In addition, Mr. Gomes reported that he has written e-mails to Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Congresswoman Tauscher regarding HR 3221, the Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008, which contains a provision where certain tax payments would not be deductible as a standard deduction on the federal income tax; he felt that this would go against the best interests of public education.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:31 p.m. after observing a moment of silence in memory of Elin Ovick, who passed away on June 25, 2008.

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 July 9, 2008, and are subject to amendment and/or correction prior to the approval of the County Board of Education.