

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
3939 THIRTEENTH STREET • P.O. BOX 868 • RIVERSIDE, CA 92502-0868**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 13, 2008**

**OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order by the President

The Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Board of Education was called to order by President Conyers at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at the Riverside County Office of Education, 3939 Thirteenth Street, Riverside.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Member Knight.

3. Attendance

a. County Board of Education Members

Dr. Lisa Conyers, President, Moreno Valley  
Dr. Vick Knight, Vice President, Canyon Lake  
Mr. Gerald P. Colapinto, President, Corona (Absent)  
Mrs. Lynne D. Craig, Riverside  
Mrs. Betty Gibbel, Hemet  
Dr. William R. Kroonen, Palm Desert  
Mr. Adolfo Mediano, Jr., Banning

4. Public Comments

Pursuant to **Government Code Section 54954.3 and Education Code Section 35145.5** any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda, or any other relevant matter, was given the opportunity to do so.

Ms. Kasey McCall , President, CSEA Chapter 693, shared that CSEA Chapter 693 Executive Board elections took place in December and introduced the new board. The Executive Board includes: Nancy McCall, Chief Job Stewart; Dianna Simental, Immediate Past President; Kenya Dixon, Chapter Reporter; Debbie Kennel, Treasurer; Jennifer Scott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Suzanne Tanenbaum, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Tonya Watkins, Secretary.

Ms. McCall also shared information on the Relay for Life event sponsored by the American Cancer Society. This event will take place on April 26, 2008 at Ramona High School. Ms. McCall also noted that she is running for CSEA Area F Director.

5. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Colapinto.

That the agenda for the February 13, 2008, Riverside County Board of Education meeting be approved with one addition. Information/Discussion Item: Riverside County Board of Education Website.

7 Ayes

Motion adopted.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
**Items 6-8 were enacted with a single motion.**

It was moved by Member Knight and seconded by Member Mediano.

That the Consent Calendar be approved as presented.

7 Ayes

Motion adopted.

6. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Board of Education, January 9, 2008.

7. Personnel Services

Certification List #CL 02-08, as recommended for approval by the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools.

8. Acceptance of Donations

- \$28,000 to be used for the R-I-M-S sponsored conference, MaTHink 2008 Achieving K-12 Algebra Success: *A Focus on EL Strategies and Interventions* scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2008 at the Ontario Airport Marriott, Ontario, CA. (Donor requested to be anonymous).
- \$2,432.81 collected in donations during Migrant Education Holiday Toy & Food Drive held on December 10, 2007 at the RCOE Indio Office. Funds to be used by the Migrant Education Program to assist migrant families with health and emergency relief such as food, cost of utilities, clothing, and toys.

**ACTION**

1. **RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL PETITION**

***Presented by:*** Mr. Paul Jessup, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Administration and Business Services

***Background information:*** River Springs Charter School is currently operating through a charter authorized by the Riverside County Office of Education for a term beginning September 21, 2005 and ending on June 30, 2008. River Springs submitted a renewal petition for a five (5) year term from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013. A Public Hearing on the matter was held on December 12, 2007. The board will take action to approve or deny the petition.

Mr. Rollin Edmunds introduced Mrs. Patti Crawford who spoke about the review process. River Springs was asked to provide an analysis of goals, achievements and a summary of proposed changes. Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Executive Director of River Springs Charter School noted that River Springs has 2,650 students, 1,700 of them are home schooled, and remaining attend learning centers throughout the county. Ms. Hermsmeyer also shared that River Springs has applied for an 18 million dollar aviation grant. Member Knight shared that he has visited several centers and is very pleased with the charter. Mr. Kenn Young, and Members Colapinto and Craig shared their appreciation to River Springs Charter School staff for their cooperation and hard work.

It was moved by Member Colapinto and seconded by Member Kroonen.

That the decision of the Riverside County Board of Education regarding the Rivers Springs Charter School petition is to adopt the staff's Written Findings of Fact regarding River Springs Charter School and approve the renewal of River Springs Charter School for a (5) year term beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013, contingent upon the completion of the Memorandum of Understanding.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

2. **MORENO VALLEY CHARTER ACADEMY SCHOOL PETITION**

**Presented by:** Mr. Paul Jessup, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Administration and Business Services

**Background information:** A petition regarding the proposed Moreno Valley Charter Academy was presented to RCOE on appeal of a denial by the Moreno Valley Unified School District. A Public Hearing on the matter was held on December 12, 2007. The board will take action to approve or deny the charter school petition.

Mr. Rollin Edmunds shared the charter school petition process and reviewed the written findings. Mr. Edmunds noted that there are fiscal concerns in the petition. Mr. Mike Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services noted that his staff also reviewed the petition and findings and determined that it fails to meet the standards. Mr. Dean Murray, representative from Moreno Valley Charter Academy, congratulated River Springs Charter School for their renewal. Mr. Murray noted that he accepts all recommendations and will move forward to improve.

It was moved by Member Craig and seconded by Member Mediano.

That the decision of the Riverside County Board of Education regarding the Moreno Valley Charter Academy petition is to adopt staff's Written Findings of Fact regarding the Moreno Valley Charter Academy petition, and uphold the decision of the Board of Trustees of the Moreno Valley Unified School District, and hereby deny the appeal petition by the Moreno Valley Charter Academy.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

3. **REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE OF ATTENDANCE BECAUSE OF EMERGENCY CONDITIONS**

**Presented by:** Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Programs and Services

**Background information:** The recent fires and high winds necessitated the closure of many RCOE across the county classes which would have resulted in a negative impact on funding. This is a request for the California Department of Education to approve a waiver which will prevent a loss of funding due to the fires.

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Gibbel.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve the submission of the Request for Allowance of Attendance Because of Emergency Conditions (CDE Form J-13A) to the California Department of Education due to fires which resulted in school closures.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

4. **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS WAIVER REQUEST**

**Presented by:** Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Programs and Services

**Background information:** Each year, the County Office conducts a public hearing relative to the sufficiency of instructional materials after school hours. A hearing was held on September 2006 during school hours. A second public hearing was held in July of 2007 after school hours to rectify this. A waiver request will be submitted to the State Board of Education to approve this corrective action.

It was moved by Member Colapinto and seconded by Member Kroonen.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve the Specific Waiver Request to the State Board Education regarding Instructional Materials Sufficiency for the 2006-2007 school year.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

5. **CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION FOR FUNDING CATEGORICAL AID PROGRAMS FOR 2007-2008**

**Presented by:** Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Programs and Services

**Background information:** The Consolidated Application provides state and federal funding for Alternative Education and Special Education programs operated by the Riverside County Office of Education. These include Cal-SAFE, Foster and Delinquent, Teacher Training, and services to English Language Learners.

It was moved by Member Mediano and seconded by Member Knight.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve the consolidated application for funding categorical aid programs for 2007-2008, Part II.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

6. **SINGLE PLAN FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**Presented by:** Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Programs and Services

**Background information:** The Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) is a plan of actions to raise the academic performance of all students to the level of performance goals established under the California Academic Performance Index. California Education Code sections 41507, 41572, and 64001 and the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) require each school to consolidate all school plans for programs funded through the School and Library Improvement Block Grant, the Pupil Retention Block Grant, the Consolidated Application, and NCLB Program Improvement into the Single Plan for Student Achievement.

It was moved by Member Craig and seconded by Member Kroonen.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve the Single Plan for Student Achievement for the Court School Program, Community School Program, Cal-SAFE Program, and Special Education Program.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

7. **NEW CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) COURSE – DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Presented by:** Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Programs and Services

**Background information:** The County Board of Education approves courses of study in programs operated by the Riverside County Office of Education. The Division of Student Programs and Services is proposing to introduce Digital Photography as a new course of study in the area of fine arts in the Alternative Education department.

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Mediano.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve the Digital Photography as a new course of study in the area of fine arts in Alternative Education.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 02-08, REMUNERATION OF THE BOARD, GERALD P. COLAPINTO**

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Gibbel.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve and adopt Resolution No. 02-08, approving the reasons for absence of Member Colapinto from the January 9, 2008 meeting and order that he be paid for the meeting as he had an excusable absence.

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

9. **SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICIES AND APPROVAL**

*Presented by:* Mr. Rollin Edmunds, Director II, District Fiscal Services, Division of Administration and Business Services

It was moved by Member Knight and seconded by Member Colapinto.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approve Board Policies as presented, including:

**Series 0000 – Philosophy-Goals-Objectives and Comprehensive Plans**

0520.4 - Quality Education Investment Schools

**Series 4000 – Personnel**

4112.21 - Interns

4119.25 - Political Activities of Employees

4131.1 - Beginning Teacher Support/Induction

4140/4240 – Bargaining Units

7 Ayes.

Motion adopted.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. **Fiscal Update**

Mrs. Theresa Hyden reviewed the budget transfers and adjustments for November 2007.

2. **State Budget Update**

Mr. Paul Jessup presented a PowerPoint presentation on the current status of the state budget and how it may impact education.

3. **Legislative Update**

Mr. Paul Jessup provided and reviewed a written legislative update from Teri Burns, Director of Legislative Advocacy, School Innovations and Advocacy.

4. **Facility Update**

Mr. Paul Jessup provided and reviewed a written facility projects update.

5. **RCOE WASC Accreditation**

Dr. Sandra Schnack, Assistant Superintendent of Student Programs and Services was pleased to announce that Riverside County High School was granted accreditation thru June 2011. Areas of strength included district support, commitment to the success of students, offering online community courses and campus safety. Dr. Schnack introduced the Alternative Education staff and recognized them for their efforts.

6. **Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) Website**

Member Craig requested that a link be added from the RCOE website to the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) website.

7. **Introduction of Issues That May Be Addressed at Future Meetings**

No issues were addressed.

8. **President/Board Member/Superintendent Comments**

Member Craig shared information from her trip to the National School Boards Association Federal Relations Network Conference in Washington, D.C. The California County Boards of Education (CCBE) hosted a reception at the conference. Member Craig congratulated the Alternative Education program for their WASC accreditation. CCBE has been invited to the Governor's Student Achievement Team Dinner on March 11, 2008. Member Craig noted that she is on the spring California School Boards Association (CSBA) planning committee.

Member Gibbel shared that second interviews for Board secretary position will take place today. She is also looking forward to attending CCBE/PTA/CCSESA conference in Berkeley next month.

President Conyers noted that Member Craig will also be on the panel for the Board secretary interviews. The County Board of Education will hold a study session on May 9, 2008 beginning at 1:00 pm, convening at the Arlington Learning Center. The study session will include a tour of the facility, NCLB presentation by Mr. Kenn Young, presentation on the expulsion appeal process by the firm of Miller Brown and Dannis and Unique Projects update. President Conyers also mentioned that Dr. David Long, California Secretary of Education, has agreed to be the commencement speaker at Riverside Community College on Thursday, June 12, 2008.

Mr. Kenn Young shared his appreciation to Ms. Monica Martinez and Mr. Moises Montejano for their efforts in creating the electronic agenda for use during Riverside County Board of Education meetings. Mr. Young also noted that the dedication of the San Jacinto Regional Learning Center may take place after the July 9, 2008 meeting of the County Board of Education.

Member Knight noted that Dr. David Long will be recognized by the Freedom Foundation for his efforts in organizing Operation Recognition.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

1. **REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS**

Government Code Section 54956.8

- A. Real Property Negotiations:
- Riverside – APN# 215-22-006
  - Riverside – APN# 215-22-007
  - Riverside – APN# 215-22-008
  - Riverside – APN#215-22-010
  - Cathedral City – APN# 670-110-026

Break: 9:55 – 10:05 pm

**Adjournment 12:05 p.m.**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING - 9 a.m., Wednesday, March 12, 2008, Riverside County Office of Education, 3939 Thirteenth Street, Riverside.**

---

President

---

Secretary