

Wasco Union High School District
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Boardroom Room 2 Science
June 10, 2010
6:00 p.m.
Adopted Minutes

I. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Wasco Union High School Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom by President Wayne Wallace.

Board Members Present

Mr. Wayne Wallace, President
Mr. Barry Braun, Clerk

Mr. Craig Fulwyler
Mr. Tim Holtermann

Board Member Absent

Mr. Jesse Acebedo

Administrators Present

Mrs. Elizabeth McCray
Mrs. Lori Albrecht

Mr. Joseph Elwood
Mr. Martin Lonza

Classified Management Present

Mr. Joe Salazar
Mr. John Yanez

Secretary Present

Mrs. Gracie Saldaña

Visitors

Mrs. Chris Beelner, Mrs. Lori Castillo, Ms. Lupe Cortez, Mrs. Lori DeLaRosa, Mrs. Sandra Fisher, Mrs. Gabby Gomez, Mr. Gerardo Gomez, Mrs. Maria Gomez, Mrs. Martha Gomez, Ms. Sandra Gomez, Mrs. Rhonda Jones, Mrs. Mary Ann Lucas, Mrs. Lisa Lopez, Mr. Daniel Maldonado, Ms. Vicki Newman, Mr. Jerry Pearson, Mrs. Marta Poe, Mr. Juan Ramos, Mrs. Alma Raya, Mr. Jose Rios, Mrs. Carmen Ruiz, Ms. Nellie Sanchez, Mr. John Sanford, Mrs. Diane Villagran

Flag Salute

The flag was saluted.

II. Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Fulwyler to adopt the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.

III. Public Hearing to the Receipt and use of Funds of the 2010-2011 Tier III Categorical Programs

IV. Public Comments

No Public Comment

V. Executive Session

The meeting convened in executive session at 6:03 p.m.

Regular Session

The meeting reconvened in regular session at 7:28 p.m.

Announcement of Executive Session Actions

None

VI. Reading and Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 11, 2010. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.

VII. Public Comments

No Public Comments

VII. Items From Board Members

Mr. Braun shared with the Board that it was great to be in attendance after everything that has happened in his life since the last Board Meeting. He reported that the surgery went well and all the Cancer in his lung was removed. He proudly announced he is a Cancer Survivor. Mr. Braun thanked everyone for their prayers and he felt the prayers. The Get Well Card he received from the District was his “prize” card. He also shared that he gave God all the Glory.

Mr. Holtermann shared that he enjoyed the Graduations, they went very well.

Mr. Wallace asked how we did with the F's since we went to the 67%. Mr. Elwood responded for the 2009-10 period there was an increase in F's when compared to the data before the grading change. One third of all students still fall into the D to F range but the percentage of Fs has increased. This has continued to be an area of concern and the Math department has agreed to start a new grading scale with the 50 to 100 scale for 2010-11. The intent is to reduce the impact of a zero, when compared to an A, on a student's grades and they will be using this new grading scale next semester. The results will be analyzed. Mr. Wallace shared that as a former teacher he has a hard time with those numbers. Many of our students come from low income families with little or no education. They have no idea what their kids are doing and we almost penalize these kids. Mr. Wallace shared with the Board an analogy using a buoy. In order for me to pass, I have to swim to the buoy. And if I cannot make it all the way there, I am going to drown. That is what is happening to our students. Mr. Wallace asked Mr. Elwood to define what tutoring meant to him. Mr. Elwood responded that the lunchtime tutoring was intended to get the students to do the work that they were not presently completing. Initially we had it set up with lessons in English and Math. But based on experience we realized that it was more helpful or useful if we made it into a directed study class, a time where the students were given the guidance and opportunity to do their work. Mr. Elwood shared that lot of discussion and effort was centered on improving instruction of standards and grading. We have improved and introduced new instructional strategies in the last year or two and rather than bring down the expectations, we believe that we can bring the students up to this threshold. This is important because once the students graduate from Wasco High School, they are competing against students from every other high school. So to expect anything less would be doing a disservice to them and giving up on them too early. I feel our students can do this. Mr. Wallace responded that is what Mr. Elwood told the Board 3 years ago.

We are still having more F's so it isn't working. He also shared that when he talks to the teachers they are saying the same thing. The Math Department of course they don't mind because you must be way above a "D" average or you can't handle the next level, but not for the student who is struggling, coming to school, and trying his very best. The tutoring he has observed, is like a lecture session, not tutoring. Mr. Elwood responded that tutoring has changed since it began; it is no longer a planned lecture as it was earlier in the year. Mr. Wallace shared that tutoring has to be like Mr. Elwood defined it earlier. It should be a teacher going around and helping the students in areas where they need it. All of us had kids in school, they did very well, they were expected to do well. Our parents did well or we would not be where we are and those kids need someone to look up to. But you have parents who have not graduated or even gone to school and when the student comes home the parent has no idea what their kids have to do and they can't help them. Yet, we are penalizing that student because he does not have the background or the parents don't have the background. Being the only school in Kern County that has gone to this type of grading, I just think we are doing our kids a disservice. That is my own personal opinion.

Mrs. McCray asked Mr. Elwood about his PAC meetings which are attended by the department Chairs. She asked about the discussions at these meetings about the grading system and if they want to change the 67% for next year. Mr. Elwood responded that this discussion has been going on for at least the last 3 PAC meetings. It was brought up and we talked about adjusting it. Department heads were asked to go back to their departments and get a general feeling. The consensus was they wanted to continue for another year. We have made many changes and improvements within the classroom and believe that our student achievement will increase as a result.

Mr. Wallace asked Mr. Elwood what happens if they don't improve. Mr. Elwood replied we will revisit it again. Mr. Wallace stated then we are going to come up with more strategies but we're not going to change it back? Mr. Elwood replied we are not going to give up on our students, I am not saying that we won't go back to 60% someday but I still think that our students can do the work. The things at home, we don't have control over but the things here on campus, we do. I feel if we come in with the expectation that these kids can't do the work and lower the standards we will be doing a disservice to our students. Mr. Wallace then asked if that meant other high schools, such as Garces and Foothill, have a lower standard. Mr. Elwood responded, as far as getting a D, yes. But our desire is not to get our students to the D; we want them up to the C or better. Mr. Wallace replied that he realizes that and that was the intent 3 years ago and it hasn't happened. Mr. Elwood shared that there is evidence of increase in academic achievement campus wide as far as the API, CST and AYP scores. He feels we are making positive improvement and our students are performing better. Mr. Wallace responded yes, the 2/3s are doing great. But from someone who taught that lower 1/3 and saw how hard they struggled and worked, you are slapping a student in the face when you tell him that he didn't make the 67%. He was working at his capacity and getting better, growing, but could not make that 67% so he give ups or he goes over with Mr. Lonza (Independence High School). Mr. Elwood explained that he feels majority of the students on campus work hard and succeed. There are some we have trouble motivating, but he believes the kids who work hard and are given the help needed to succeed. Mr. Wallace responded that we still have a 1/3 of them (with F's).

VIII. Reports

1. Ileana Soto was absent, no report on behalf of the Student Body.
2. Mr. Fulwyler reported on behalf of the NKVTC. We are still facing a tough financial situation and we are working on resolving that.
3. Mrs. McCray shared with the Board regarding the issue of the Budget Meeting. As the Board is aware that the announcement for the Public Hearing is for the next year's budget. It goes through the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office and that was sent in to them a long time ago. They in turn follow the procedure and send the notice to the Wasco Tribune, however the address they had for the Tribune has changed since the Tribune came together with the Shafter Press in the same office. Consequently, the forwarding part of that did not happen and it went back to Kern County Superintendent of Schools. At that point we were notified that we would not have the 10 day period from the posting in the newspaper to when we could have our Board Meeting. So that Special Meeting for the Budget is next week on June 17, 2010.

Mrs. McCray reported to the Board a correspondence that she received from the State Superintendent this morning. It is a survey of School Districts on what kinds of things those Districts are cutting due to the Budget constraints. With a response of 387 District, representing 1.7 million students. What they found in the responses is 65% cut building grounds and maintenance, 58% cut instructional materials, 47% cut counselors, nurses and physiologist, 48% cut art, Music and Drama, 47% cut classified staff salary, benefits and reduced their work time or work year, 45% cut certificated staff salary, benefits and reduced their work time or work year, 34% cut electives, 34% cut library and completely closed them down, 33% cut facilities, 32% cut teachers, 29% cut instructional assistance, 27% cut athletics, 26% cut out supplemental instruction and summer school, 20% cut adult education, 16% of the Districts reduced the school year (the legislation allowed us to cut days), 14% cut food and nutrition services, 12% cut technology services, 12% cut transportation, 12% cut physical education, 11% cut career tech. ed., 10% closed schools, 5% cut special education, 4% cut advance placement classes, 4% cut security, 3% cut services for English Learners and 1% cut regional occupational centers (like North Kern Vocational Training Center). So you can see that schools have really been hurt in the State of California with the Budget. We are very fortunate. Although we had to make a huge cut, which you will see in those Budgets next week, we still did not lay anybody off. Mrs. McCray commended the Board during these difficult times. Next year is going to be difficult. But I feel very good about the fact that we have been able to maintain. Districts throughout the State as well as Kern County have really been faced with some difficult decisions.

Mrs. McCray directed the attention of the Board to correspondence from Western Association of Schools and Colleges regarding the action taken by the Accrediting Commission for Schools accreditation that Independence High School has been extended three additional years.

IX. Discussion and Action

1. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Braun to approve the following

personnel items pending fingerprint clearance. Motion carried. Ayes: 4;
Noes: 0; Absent: 1;

- a. Approve Rehire of Certificated Employee for the 2010-11 School Year
 1. Jayne Reithofer
- b. Approve Temporary Summer Technology Helper
 1. Zachary Hunt
- c. Approve Classified Substitutes
 1. Mayra Guerra, Substitute Custodian
 2. Araceli Marquez, Substitute Custodian
 3. Leticia Juarez Cruz, Substitute Custodian
- d. Approve BTSA Support Providers
 1. David Lucas
 2. Araceli Solis
- e. Approve the following Department Chairs for 2010-11 School Year
 1. Ross Shafer-Counseling
 2. Carmie Sears-English
 3. Brian Bell-Mathematics
 4. Millie Pettibone-Physical Education
 5. Jerry Hobbs-Special Education
 6. Pete Mitchell-Vocational Education
- f. Approve Adult Education Teachers for 2010-11 School Year
 1. Coral Ceiley-Jackson
 2. Willie Fields
 3. Julie Pineo
 4. Blanca Soto-Ortiz
 5. Frank Russell
 6. Rosemarie Tyack
- g. Approve Volunteer Bus Driver for Football Trip
 1. Salvador Garcia
- h. Approve Athletic Coaches
 1. Approval of the following Girls Tennis Coach:
 - a. Anthony Sandoval, Walk On- Paid (if enough athletes)
 - b. Dennis Groseclos, Walk On- Volunteer
 - c. Matt Steward, Walk On - Volunteer
 - d. Joe Hively, Head Varsity - Paid
 - e. Connie Hively, Walk On - Chaperone
 2. Approve the following Volleyball Coaches
 - a. Millie Pettibone, Head Varsity - Paid
 - b. Christina Nance, JV Assistant - Paid
 - c. Alyssa Sabala, Walk On - Paid
 3. Approve the following Girls Golf Coach
 - a. Chris Ruiz-Paid
 4. Approve the following Cross Country Coach
 - a. Craig Williams-Paid
 5. Approve the following Cheer Coaches
 - a. Kyna Mecham
 - b. Lori DelaRosaStipend Pay will be divided equal between Kyna and Lori
 6. Approve the following Football Coaches
 - a. Rusvel Prado, Head Varsity - Paid
 - b. Ed Moreno, Assistant
 - c. Leonard Ortiz, Assistant
 - d. Jeff Wedel, Walk On
 - e. Derrick Blanton, Walk On
 - f. Donny Johnson, Walk On
 - g. Mike Rowland, JV Assistant
 - h. TJ Criner, Walk On

- i. Diego Rivas, Walk On
 - j. Justin Derrick, Frosh Assistant
 - k. Samuel Mecham, Walk On
 - l. Alex Gallardo, Walk On
 - Paid Status to be determined at a Later Date
7. Approve the following Colorguard Coach
 - a. Eric Alvarez, Walk On - Volunteer
2. It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Braun to approve the Receipt and Use of Funds of the 2010-2011 Tier III Categorical Programs. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
3. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve the Loan Agreement between North Kern Vocational Training Center and Wasco Union High School District. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
4. It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Braun to approve the District's Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for 2010-11 School Year. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
5. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve the Consolidated Application Part I. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
6. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the School Innovations & Advocacy, Inc. Contract for Mandated Costs. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
7. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Student Teaching Agreement FEASTA052 with California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
8. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Proposed Contract Bid and Construction of the Wasco High School Cafeteria Project to Colombo Construction, Inc. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
9. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve the BARD Mat MOU. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
10. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Braun by to approve the Resolution to Initiate the Process for a Change in its Electoral System. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
11. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the 2010-2011 Pivot Learning Partners Contract for Services. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
12. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the 2010-2011 Agriculture Incentive Grant Application. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.

13. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve to go out to Bid for Ag Shop Roof CTE Grant Project. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
14. It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Braun to approve the W Book for 2010-2011 School Year. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
15. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Leadership Class Course of Study. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
16. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Field Trip to Clovis East Football Camp. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
17. It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Braun to approve the Donations to Girls' Golf, Golf Programs and Freshmen Class. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.
18. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Facilities Request submitted by Golden Empire Youth Football – Wasco Bengals. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.

X. Discussion and Information

1. Correspondence from United States Census Bureau 2010 was shared with the Board.
2. Correspondence from Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office Regarding Completion Notification: Assignment Monitoring and Review for 2009-10 was shared with the Board.
3. Correspondence from Self-Insured Schools of California Workers' Compensation was shared with the Board.

XI. Claims, Transfers and Accounts

It was moved by Braun and seconded by Holtermann to approve the claims, transfers and accounts for Batches 75, 76, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86 and Payrolls in the amount \$1,701,758.52. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1.

XII. Adjournment

It was moved by Braun and seconded by Fulwyler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Any materials required by law to be made available to the public prior to a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the District can be inspected at the following address during normal business hours: District Office, 2100 Seventh Street, Wasco, CA 93280. An individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting should contact the Superintendent's Office.