

Wasco Union High School District  
Board of Trustees  
Regular Board Meeting  
Boardroom NKVTC Room 4  
February 9, 2012  
7:00 p.m.  
Adopted Minutes

I. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Wasco Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Craig Fulwyler.

Board Members Present

Mr. Barry Braun, President  
Mr. Craig Fulwyler, Clerk  
Mr. Jesse Acebedo

Mrs. Patricia Sanchez  
Mr. Wayne Wallace

Administrators Present

Mrs. Elizabeth McCray  
Mrs. Lori Albrecht  
Mr. Rob Cobb

Mr. Joe Elwood  
Mr. Martin Lonza

Classified Management Present

Mr. Jeff Payne  
Mr. Joe Salazar

Secretary Present

Mrs. Gracie Saldaña

Visitors

Anna Balentine, Susan Andreas-Bervel, Rafael Gonzalez, Grant Herndon, Chris McCraw, Daniel Maldonado, Jose Rios, Carmey Sears, Richard Winters

Flag Salute

The flag was saluted.

II. Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Braun and seconded by Wallace to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Executive Session

The meeting convened in executive session at 6:02 p.m.

Regular Session

The meeting convened in regular session at 7:10 p.m.

Announcement of Executive Session Actions

Mr. Fulwyer reported the District is in receipt of the CSEA and CTA. Sunshine Proposals.

V. Reading and Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Sanchez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2012. Motion carried Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

VI. Public Hearing regarding Maintenance of the Current At-Large Election System

Mrs. McCray introduced Mr. Grant Herndon of Schools Legal Service who reviewed updated demographics for the District presented at the January 12, 2012 meeting, including information from the 2010 Census.

Mr. Herndon noted that the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 0910-09 on June 10, 2010, calling for the review of 2010 Census data when it becomes available and evaluating possible alternative election systems. Copies of information sheets containing 2010 Census and related data were once again available to the public.

Mr. Herndon noted that the total population in the District increased from 25,164 in 2000 to 29,934 in 2010. The 2010 population after excluding population from Wasco State Prison was 24,224. Hispanic residents were the largest minority group within the District, accounting for 85.4 percent of total population in 2010 (prison-adjusted), followed by 2.2 percent Black/African-American residents. 11.0 percent of residents identified as Non-Hispanic White. Hispanic voting age population registered at 81.9 percent (prison-adjusted). Hispanic citizen voting age population accounted for 65.9 percent of the total according to the American Community Survey and Census Special Tabulation.

Mr. Herndon noted that data indicates an increase in Hispanic electoral participation. Registration data indicated 47.3 percent of registered voters in the District had Spanish surnames in 2000, in comparison with 62.0 percent in 2010. Voters with Spanish surnames accounted for 50.4 percent of voter turnout in 2010.

Mr. Herndon noted that the District has a history of Hispanic candidacies and representation on the Board of Trustees and that two of the five current Board members are Hispanic. A review of contested elections from 1994 through 2010 showed that for 21 vacancies on the Board, there were 10 Hispanic candidates, five of whom were elected to the Board.

Mr. Herndon summarized the discussion from the January 12, 2012 Board meeting concerning the advantages and disadvantages of moving to a “by-trustee area” election system.

▶ Board members indicated that no public concerns have been expressed in the recent past alleging that the at-large election system is in any way unfair. Superintendent McCray indicated that no demand letter has been filed with her office seeking a change in the District electoral system.

▶ Board members discussed the concern that a by-trustee area election system could result in a kind of territorialism, with trustees focusing on the constituents in their election areas at the expense of a more global view of the District. Trustees commented

that the Board currently focuses on the needs of all students in the District under the at-large system, that this could change under a by-trustee area system, and that this could lead to a deterioration of efficiency on the Board and barriers to decision-making.

▶ Board members commented that they did not believe the size of the District presents an obstacle in running for Board seats. Board members commented that the size of the Board was not such that it created an obstacle in campaigning for school board seats. Two Board members commented that while the District's territory is large, its population is not and campaigning within the District is not difficult. Another Board member commented that school board campaigns in the District do not involve significant expense.

▶ Board members commented that it was important that all voters in the District have an opportunity to express their preferences every two years as permitted under the at-large system, rather than only every four years. Trustees commented that the current system offers more choices and involvement for voters, does not force candidates to wait four years to run for a Board seat, and allows community members to express their views more regularly.

▶ In light of the information presented, the trustees noted that it was not clear to the Board that a change in electoral system would be beneficial to the District at this time, or would significantly increase the voting strength of minority voters in the District. Given that the Hispanic residents already constitute more than 85 percent of the total population of the District, nearly 66 percent of the citizen voting age population, and considering the District's election history, a strong case can be made that Hispanic voters have more than sufficient voting strength in the District to elect their candidates of choice. Board members commented that it appears that Hispanic voters have the power to make their choices on the school board; that the data does not indicate that the community would benefit from dividing into election areas, and that dividing the District into separate election areas could lead to a contentious atmosphere which would be detrimental to the District.

▶ By consensus, the Board at the January 12 meeting expressed that its preferred approach would be to maintain the current at-large election system for now, while continuing to watch for changes in District demographics and other factors which might make a by-trustee area election system more beneficial for the District and its students.

Mr. Herndon reviewed with the Board a proposed resolution calling for the Board to maintain its at-large election system at this time, while monitoring developments which might indicate the need for a change at some time in the future.

A public hearing was convened to certify the district's compliance with Education Code 60119 concerning the Maintenance of the Current At-Large Election System. Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed.

## VII. Public Comments

Mr. McCraw invited the Board to visit the lambs and baby pigs at the Ag Farm. He shared that February 21-25 is National FFA Week. Wasco High is hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> annual FFA Bash on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February which is a fun friendly competition. Mr. McCraw then invited the Board to the annual "drive thru the shop" Chicken Dinner on Sunday - February 12, 2012.

Mr. Rafael Gonzalez shared that CTA submitted their proposal this evening and copies of the proposal were on the back table. He reported that their intention is to bargain in good faith. Mr. Fulwyler asked what the reason was for the late submission of the proposal, as we didn't get it in our packet last week like we usually do. Mr. Gonzalez responded that the main reason was because they needed more information on the budget and by the time they were able to bring it back to the members, it was late.

#### VIII. Items From Board Members

Mr. Acebedo reported on Kern County Student Leadership. Next meeting is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February during lunch time with a special speaker by the name of Bud Cashen the founder to Century 21.

Mrs. Sanchez reported on the boys soccer games. She also shared that she was able to attend the Wasco/Shafter Wrestling Dual; it was a great win for JV and Varsity.

Mr. Wallace shared that as you know he is not all for unification. He reported that he got this paper with the Elementary, High School revenue and we (WUHSD) would take a hit. He explained that he understands that there is an organization called FCMAT that can get an analysis. Mrs. McCray shared that as a part of the feasibility study for Unification, we are required to request from KCSOS that they do a revenue calculation. KCSOS has contracted with an outside entity to perform the revenue calculation for the Districts. She also reported that she has met with Mr. Fulmer and Mr. Chamber regarding the revenue calculation and process of unification.

Mr. Fulwyler shared that he is in favor of unification but it is still contingent upon on the benefits for the students. He explained that he likes to take "the cup half full" approach.

#### IX. Reports

1. Daniel Cisneros, Student Board Representative reported on the Academic Decathlon. Over all they won 5<sup>th</sup> place out of 25 schools. He then reported on the Link Crew and Maya Club collaboration for the Relay for Life. He shared that the Snowball sold out this year with 325 tickets. The Snowball was held in Bakersfield and was a lot of fun. Coach Hutson reached is 500 wins in basketball. He said that it took some time but he had fun with it. Teen for Jeans is being held and the winner will receive extra class points.
2. Mr. Fulwyler reported on behalf of the North Kern Vocational Training Center. He reported that they are trying to find business partnerships to work with such as Honda.
3. Mrs. McCray introduced Mr. Elwood regarding the Academic Decathlon. Mr. Elwood then introduced Mrs. Carmey Sears who shared that Wasco High School earned 5<sup>th</sup> place and only missed 4<sup>th</sup> place by 90 points. We were still 2300 points from 6<sup>th</sup> place. Mrs. Sears said that she didn't understand during the first few years when participating in the Decathlon what she would hear from other teachers saying , "It's amazing what you can do with those kids". Now we are being told "we are getting a little worried about you". The 2012 Academic Decathletes are Alma Almanza, Jose Castro, Isydra Lujan, Yesenia Figueroa, David Pena, Ricardo Rivas, Daniel Cisneros, Carlos Verdoza and Nelley Gonzalez. Then she introduced Alma to present her speech to the board regarding

Facebook Addiction. Carlos Verdoza presented his speech on knowledge. Mrs. McCray commended Mrs. Sears and the students for their great work. Mrs. Sears thanked Mrs. McCray for her support.

Mr. Elwood then introduced Isydra Lujan. He shared that of the 10,000 students who qualify to attend West Point it is then narrowed down to 150 and Isydra was selected. Mrs. Sears then shared that it is her understanding that Isydra is the first chosen in the Nation. Mrs. McCray commended Isydra on her accomplishments.

In response to a question arising from our last Board Meeting, Mrs. McCray introduced Mr. Elwood regarding instructional materials. Mr. Elwood introduced Mr. Richard Winters who prepares the library list that is introduced for Board approval. He shared that the selection is made by the trends and the interests of the students. Mr. Winters reported that a library loses 300-500 books a year. This is a result of books that don't come back and/or wear out. Mr. Wallace then asked how many books are checked out. Mr. Winters responded anywhere from 300 to 400 or 50 to 75 depending on time of year. Mr. Wallace asked if the teachers assign book reports. Mr. Winters shared that most of the English teachers do. Mr. Winters shared that we now have a book club with 28 members. Mr. Wallace said that he talked to an English teacher who felt that he AR did a great job. Mrs. McCray shared that AR was not providing the growth that we needed for our students; it took away valuable time from teaching the core curriculum and standards which in turn did not produce the results necessary for student proficiency. Mr. Fulwyler shared that we need to know where to draw the line with the balance. He shared that he doesn't believe that Miss Lujan is reading some of that material to get accepted into West Point. Mr. Winters shared that anything we can get them to read is a good thing. Mrs. Sears shared that they have good reading material in the class but it is nice to have pleasurable reading material. Mr. Fulwyler then expressed that he understands the pleasurable reading but there is some stuff out there that you stay thinking, "is that really necessary". We know that you are doing the best job you can but remember we are not compromising on our values. Mr. Acebedo asked how many student requests Mr. Winters denies. Mr. Winters responded there are plenty. He shared that he has had students ask for books such as Hannibal and he told them that it is not going to happen. Mr. McCray and the Board commended and thanked Mr. Winters for the presentation.

Mrs. McCray reported on the Pivot Mid-Year Report. She asked if the Board Members had any questions. Mr. Wallace shared that there was no place that we are making time for technology. Mrs. McCray shared that although we are very involved with things such as Smartboards, and Ipads, technology may not be in this report. Program Improvement is not based on a technology piece. You will see the technology plan later under discussion and information in the agenda. Mr. Wallace stated as a life time member of NEA he understands the importance of technology. Mr. Wallace then stated that he keeps hearing collaboration but when is it scheduled. Mrs. McCray deferred to Mr. Elwood who shared that they meet weekly on Tuesdays. They also have the DSLT who meets monthly and SLT who meet weekly. He shared that they have a lot of collaboration. He also stated that there is a lot more collaboration with Thomas Jefferson this year. Mr. Wallace then asked if the lesson plans are being randomly collected. Mr. Elwood responded that we have a random check when an administrator visits a classroom.

We also have scheduled collections as well. Mr. Wallace then shared that last year he was not impressed with lunchtime tutoring and he was told that they don't do math and then another time a couple of kids were looking at a magazine. Mr. Elwood shared that it has changed with instructional packets which lead to the off campus option. Mr. Wallace then shared that he was sorry to ask all these questions but he really is interested. He then stated that he was sorry to have to make this comment but on page 5, what is pedagogy. He looked at the other board members and asked them what it means, do any of you know. Mr. Cobb responded that it is the act of teaching. Mr. Wallace then stated that he knew that because you can find anything on Google. Mr. Wallace then asked how the collaboration was going with Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Elwood shared that the collaboration has gotten much better. He stated that because of the joint Superintendent, it is much easier to schedule and accomplish. Mrs. McCray shared that therefore the collaboration is another great reason of the unification. Mr. Wallace then shared that he was disturbed that the counseling had not been implemented. Mrs. McCray shared that we now have a Pivot counseling coach. Mr. Braun shared that he too was disturbed that nothing had been done with that. Mr. Cobb shared that they have met 4-6 times. Mr. Braun asked according to Pivot what the biggest challenge is that we are facing right now. Mrs. Albrecht shared that when you read the report it is pretty positive in what we have implemented and accomplished. We have upped the rigor and accountability at all levels. That push and sense of urgency is there. We are always refining so time is really the killer. Mrs. Albrecht shared that she truly believes that we are closing the achievement gap. Mrs. McCray shared that Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Albrecht monitor the plan quarterly. She agreed with Mrs. Albrecht regarding time being a big factor and keeping the focus with our meetings. What gets monitored gets done, as the old saying goes. We are constantly coming back and refocusing the energy in student achievement. The biggest piece of data is the improved scores and learning. Everybody is working hard. The collaboration with Thomas Jefferson, Executive Cabinet and Superintendents Cabinet is very powerful. We had not been able to accomplish this kind of collaboration in the past. When they come together there is positive information and energy that is being shared. Teachers are talking to one another. Our relationship with Pivot Learning Partners is great. There is consistency with WUHSD and WUESD to bring that together. Quarterly we do a Superintendents Update by each of those coaches, and it gives us a better perspective. Mr. Braun asked if Mrs. McCray sees any who are reluctant. Mrs. McCray shared that people are looking within themselves. The kids rise to the expectations, just like we have for ourselves. We will see even greater strength in the years to come. Mrs. McCray shared that Shafter and other high schools are now asking what we are doing out here. This is not only regarding Athletics but Academics as well. We also have to give credit to our parents; our families have supported us, too. A lot more of our parents are feeling much more comfortable to visit the high school. We are on the right track, we just need to stay there and continue the progress. Mrs. Sanchez asked what E3L is. Mrs. McCray shared that it is English Learners Leading. This assists our English learners and empowers them. Mr. Martin Baltierra from Pivot, assists as well. Mr. Wallace then asked why the job descriptions are on hold. Mrs. McCray shared that is because of the pending unification process.

Mrs. McCray reported on enrollment. She stated that last year's enrollment for the district was 1685 with 1486 students at Wasco High and 199 students at Independence High. Last month the district was at 1711 with 1540 at Wasco High and 171 students at Independence High. This month the district is at 1709 with 1524 at Wasco High and 185 students at Independence High.

X. Discussion and Action

1. It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Sanchez on the approval of the Personnel Consent Agenda. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.
  - a. Accept Letter of Resignation from Merrilee Desatoff, Certificated Employee
  - b. Accept Letter of Resignation from Classified Employee(s)
    1. Kyna Mecham, Cheer Coach
    2. Robin Pearson, Cafeteria
  - c. Approval of CAHSEE Teacher(s)
    1. Denise Fahey
    2. Handan Inman
    3. Carmie Sears
    4. Charmae Woods
  - d. Approval of Kevin Tallon, Summer School Principal
  - e. Approval of Kenneth Yeager, Substitute Campus Supervisors
  - f. Approval of Athletic Coaches
    1. Approval of the following Tennis Coaches:
      - a. Anthony Sandoval, Walk-On, JV Assistant - Paid
      - b. Cody Beach, Walk-On, V and JV Assistant - Volunteer
    2. Approval of the following Boys Track Coaches:
      - a. Alvaro Luna, Coach - Paid
      - b. Omar Garcia, Walk-On, Assistant - Volunteer
      - c. Joe Blanchard, Assistant, Paid
    3. Approval of the following Softball Coach:
      - a. Allison Jarnagan, JV Assistant - Volunteer
      - b. Rene Salazar, JV Assistant – Volunteer
    4. Approval of the following Baseball Coach:
      - a. Samuel Mecham, Walk-On, JV and V Assistant, Volunteer
    5. Approval of the change of pay date for Cheer Coaches
      - a. Cheer Season is April-February. Currently Cheer Coaches are paid December 10<sup>th</sup>, after the fall season ends, and June 10<sup>th</sup> for the winter season. Please change the last pay date to March 10<sup>th</sup> for the winter season. The new cheer season begins with tryouts in April.
2. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Acebedo on the approval of the Adoption of Resolution No. # 1112-06 to maintain At-Large Election System. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0
3. It was moved by Wallace and seconded by Acebedo on the approval of the Webhosting Service, E-mail Service, Internet Access, and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections for Year 15 Wasco High School District E-Rate Priority 1 and Priority 2 Service. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

4. It was moved by Braun and seconded by Acebedo on the approval of the Proposed Project No. 059-12M.1 – Microsoft Products – District Wide Piggyback Contract. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0
5. It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Sanchez on the approval of the Instructional Materials for Library. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0
6. It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Braun on the approval of the Interdistrict Transfer Requests. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0
7. It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Acebedo on the approval of the Facilities Requests submitted by Wasco Wrestling Club and American Cancer Society. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0
8. It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Braun on the approval of the Field Trips submitted by Mr. McCray to San Luis Obispo for the Cooperating Teacher Conference on 2/10/12, by Mr. Abernathy to Visalia for the Advanced Leadership Academy on 2/10-11/12, by Mr. Steward to Kern River Canyon for a Kern River Canyon Hike on 02/12/12, by Mr. McCraw & Mr. Abernathy to Tulare for the Tulare Farm Show on 2/16/12 and by Mr. Hunter to Long Beach for the Long Beach Aquarium 02/18/12. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0

XI. Discussion and Information

1. Correspondence from the United States Military Academy, West Point regarding Wasco High School Senior, Isydra Lujan was shared with the Board.
2. Correspondence from the Kern County Superintendent of Schools regarding Return of 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report was presented to the Board.
3. Introduction of District Technology Plan 2012-15 was presented to the Board.
4. Introduction of Wasco High School and Independence High School's SARC was presented to the Board
5. Introduction of revision of Administrative Regulation 5121, Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement was presented to the Board
6. Introduction of revision of Board Policy 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements was presented to the Board
7. Census Information was shared with the Board.

XII. Claims Transfers and Accounts

It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Braun to approve the claims, transfers and accounts for Batches 50, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63 and Payrolls in the amount of \$1,142,352.03. Motioned carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

XIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Braun to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.