

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2011, BIG BEAR HIGH SCHOOL

Present: Mrs. Beverly Grabe
Mr. Randall Putz
Dr. Kenneth Turney
Dr. Al Waner
Mr. Paul Zamoyta

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Kegham Tashjian
Mr. Walter Con
Mr. Tim Larson
Ms. Joy Oliver
Mrs. Bonnie South, CSEA
Mr. Scott Hird, B.V.E.A.
Mrs. Tina Fulmer
Mr. Mike Ghelber
Mrs. Lisa Waner
Ms. Jana Saderup
Mrs. Sue Reynolds
Dr. Russ Reynolds
Mr. Kevin Amburgey
Mrs. Melinda Peterson
Mrs. Jeanette Haston
Mrs. Judi Bowers

President Zamoyta called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

President Zamoyta called for a Moment of Silence and all participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Zamoyta called for a motion to adopt the agenda for this meeting pulling item 10-b. Motion by Dr. Turney to approve the agenda for this meeting pulling item 10-b Purchase Order–Alpine Resort Rentals. Second by Mrs. Grabe. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

M10-11-188

Sam Swanson, Student Representative from Big Bear High School reported on the Spirit Assembly and Dance as well as on Winter Sports. CAHSEE testing took place over the past two days. Sam reported on the upcoming Valentine Dinner Show and Taco Night in support of Tennis.

Student
Representative
Reports

Emma Sevilla, Student Representative from Chautauqua High School reported on the relationship between Chautauqua High School and Big Bear High School. Emma explained how students enroll in Chautauqua and what activities Chautauqua students can participate in at Big Bear High School.

Comments were made by Board Members regarding the Government Group Meeting at Chautauqua High School they attended.

At 6:40 p.m. President Zamoyta asked if any cards had been submitted requesting an opportunity for a member of the public to make comments to the Board. The following individuals made requests to address the Board of Trustees:

Hearing Section

Mrs. Geiling spoke about the Career Office at Big Bear High School and what Mrs. Saderup does for Special Education Students.

Miss Sam Swanson asked students who were present at the meeting how many of them want to be successful and how are they able to achieve their dreams if they are not provided the tools to be successful. Sam talked about how the Career Center accomplishes all of this.

Mrs. Sharon Bumstead spoke about personally working with Mrs. Saderup for 10 years and during that time, she witnessed Mrs. Saderup give many presentations. Mrs. Bumstead talked about how well Mrs. Saderup provided information to the students. Mrs. Bumstead also spoke about how Mrs. Saderup prepares students for many different things; not just school but school-to-work. She also helps in the completion of forms. Mrs. Bumstead stated Mrs. Saderup is a team player, takes initiative, and will do anything to help.

Nick Topoleski spoke about how Mrs. Saderup has helped him with his high school career and explained what Mrs. Saderup does for all students at BBHS.

Mrs. Jan Swanson stated she is a parent of two students at BBHS and spoke about her desire to save the Career Center. Mrs. Swanson feels it is a wonderful resource and benefit that we

offer and stated it is so much more difficult to get into colleges and to find a career and job now. Mrs. Swanson explained how Mrs. Saderup has helped both of her students and how the loss of the Career Center would be detrimental to our students. She added we need to keep the Career Center support instead of eliminate it. Mrs. Swanson handed out packets which included letters from current students and past students in support of the Career Center.

Mr. Justin Gafford spoke about how Mrs. Saderup has helped him and guided him toward a job. He added if it was not for Mrs. Saderup, he would not know what to do after high school. Ms. Lola Monroe stated she is a mentor to a young man in Big Bear Middle School, she spoke about a flyer that was sent to households regarding the parcel tax. She felt this fancy flyer does not jive with the asking for money; it left a bad taste in her mouth. She spoke about her concerns regarding the closing of a school site when a new building is being built at that site. She is wondering if we are moving out of a site, couldn't we just put special education in that site rather than build a new building. Dr. Tashjian stated he will contact Ms. Monroe and follow up on her concerns.

Hearing no further request to address the Board, President Zamoyta closed the Hearing Section at 6:55 p.m.

Dr. Tashjian introduced Mr. Mike Ghelber, Principal of Big Bear High School. Mr. Ghelber presented a video that was put together by the ASB Students. Mr. Ghelber then presented the Data Report for the 09-10 school year. A three year breakdown of the ELA and CST was presented as well as the breakdown of the Math CST. Mr. Ghelber reviewed Social Studies and Science and stated Big Bear High School has made big gains in Science over the course of three years. API grew in all sub groups and Big Bear High School is at 788 API. Interventions were reviewed and it was noted these interventions are built in to the school day. AYP targets were reviewed. The 10th Grade CAHSEE was reviewed as was the CAHSEE Boot Camp class. AP scores and SAT 1 exams were reviewed. Mr. Ghelber announced Big Bear High School qualified as one of only four high schools to apply for Distinguished High School status. President Zamoyta asked what qualifies a high school to apply for Distinguished School. Mr. Ghelber answered the school must get every sub group in AYP and API and you need to

Community/Staff
Presentations

close the achievement gap between sub groups. President Zamoyta stated he is trying to understand how math looks going from middle school to high school. Mr. Ghelber answered the State requires students must pass Algebra prior to graduating high school. If a student takes Algebra in middle school, they would take Geometry in high school. The numbers reported this evening will not reflect those students who took Algebra in middle school; those students would be reflected in the Geometry scores. Students who are taking Geometry are a year ahead. Mr. Ghelber added he will be training teachers to teach AP Statistics for those students who have completed their advanced math prior to their senior year. Dr. Waner stated it really is a tribute to this school to be one of four schools in our County to go for Distinguished School. Even if we do not obtain that status, the fact we were included is great. Mr. Ghelber reported being told if the opportunity comes along, we should apply for a Blue Ribbon High School.

Dr. Tashjian introduced Ms. Diane Branham. Ms. Branham presented the FCMAT Facilities Report. Ms. Branham first presented BVUSD's Management Review and explained who FCMAT is and provided a history of the organization. Also reviewed was the scope of work, reviewed findings, and recommendations. Guidelines for closure of a school were reviewed. Enrollment projections for the last five years were reviewed based on history over the last four or five years. It is very important to complete these projections at every reporting period. Recommendations for enrollment projections were reviewed. Financial Analysis and cost saving recommendations were reviewed as was small schools funding (FVES). Another consideration is collective bargaining. Transportation analysis is required regarding how many more students would need to be bussed and the cost for that. Parcel tax recommendations were reviewed as was the school closure process and timeline for school closure. District Consolidation Committee Meetings were discussed. Dr. Turney asked a question regarding the list when a district talks about school closure, are you talking about shutting down a facility or repurposing? Ms. Branham stated closure would be up to the District and how the District would use the facility. You can repurpose and use a site for other things. School closure is very emotional on the community and we recommend a site be closed for five years if a district chooses to go through this process.

Dr. Turney asked about Charter Schools and if our district considers a charter, they would want it to be a District charter. Ms. Branham stated many communities have created a dependent charter which is run by the district. Dr. Waner stated he feels it is important to point out what the past enrollment has been and talked about the work that has been done at BBMS by removing the portables. Ms. Branham stated you do not want to close a school just because of declining enrollment; facilities are considered as well. Dr. Waner gave tribute to this Board for Measure Q and the way those funds were spent; our challenge is working with what we have. Mr. Putz stated there was a lot of good information in the report; he reviewed enrollment projections and was surprised in the size of the drop. Staff commented on what is available at the sites in regards to space. The Board would like to know what the comfort level is at each elementary site in regards to space. Mr. Putz was surprised about how much we might be able to save on utilities. Ms. Branham suggested starting with the utility companies to come in and review our utility usage. Mr. Putz would like to know what our plan is in making a decision to address this and what our timeline would be. Dr. Tashjian stated this needs to be correlated with the Board's decision for a parcel tax. Once that decision is made as to which is happening or not, then we could start the process. This is a big challenge for the district with an Interim Superintendent who is here three days per week. A workshop to look at all these elements should be done in the next few weeks. Mrs. Grabe talked about past enrollment and how some of our cash issues could be alleviated if we can attract some of the home school students back in to our district. Mr. Putz stated part of what drove this report is we had to identify where the over \$300,000.00 in cuts would come from and one of those options was repurposing a school; the result of that response needs to be in place when? Mr. Con answered starting July 1, 2011. Dr. Tashjian stated by July 1st, we have to put in place \$425,000.00; for 12/13 we have the additional \$323,000.00; we again have a reprieve—we do not know for how long—in terms of the \$323,000.00 because of the flexibility in class size reduction which is expected to be extended to the 12/13 school year. With this extension, we would not need to make the \$323,000.00 cut. The \$425,000.00 is for the 11/12 school year. President Zamoyta asked Mr. Con about deficit spending and how it will change if the Governor's initiatives do not pass. Mr. Con stated mid year cuts are still on the table. Ms. Branham spoke

about the ramifications if the State takes over a district. President Zamoyta reviewed information from a School Services meeting he attended a few years ago with Mr. Con.

Budget Advisory Committee Expenditure Reduction Recommendations. Dr. Tashjian stated this recommendation is coming from the Budget Advisory Committee and not the Superintendent. Dr. Tashjian reviewed the history of the Budget Advisory Committee, what they recommended and what the Board took action on. The resolution was also reviewed. This information was updated on January 27, 2011. Lists were provided showing the recommendations from the Budget Advisory Committee. Dr. Tashjian explained the refund to the Discovery Education Program. With funding from a Microsoft settlement, there is enough money to take us through the five years of funding of Discovery Education. President Zamoyta stated one of the interesting things about the Budget Advisory Committee is the amount of time and energy it takes; the impact this committee has on our schools is something that needs to be considered when we are weighing funding opportunities. Mrs. Grabe thanked the committee and Dr. Waner and explained how difficult it is to be on this committee. Dr. Tashjian stated it has been made very clear to the Budget Advisory Committee that they are an advisory committee and the ultimate decision will be made by the Board. Dr. Turney stated one thing that helped this year as opposed to last year is this year we have some latitude because the amount the committee came up with is a little more than we need to cut. Mrs. Grabe reminded all present that salary rollbacks can not be used by the committee because those are negotiated items.

Superintendent Search Timelines and Process. Dr. Tashjian, as advisor to the County Superintendent for the search, reviewed the proposed process and timelines. The Board was requested to e-mail their availability of dates for meetings regarding this search to Dr. Tashjian. It is imperative that Board Members make no contact with any candidate or reference; the County Office will provide that service. If there is a candidate anyone would like to have contacted, please advise Dr. Tashjian.

President Zamoyta made the motion to take a break at 8:58 p.m. Second by Mrs. Grabe. Motion approved unanimously.

President Zamoyta called the meeting back to order at 9:15 p.m.

Board Member Comments:

Mr. Putz drew attention to a handout that was provided from the Education Coalition. Mr. Putz stated it tears at his heart to see how good our schools are then have to deal with this fiscal crisis.

Mrs. Grabe and Dr. Waner visited sites last week and the week before. Mrs. Grabe stated she was thrilled to see how positive the classrooms are. She loved seeing CT's Government Group and how they dealt with students in discipline situations. There are good things going on and she thanked all the staff, parents, and students.

Dr. Waner spoke about people who are volunteering; thanked Mrs. Grabe for her report on their visits to sites.

Superintendent Comments:

Dr. Tashjian reviewed the Calendar as it was presented on the agenda and reminded all present of the Ian Jukes Workshop on February 23, 2011. This workshop will be held at the Community Church and not at the PAC as was originally scheduled. Dr. Tashjian informed the Board that discussion on the Board Fieldbook will take place on February 16th; Chapter 4 will be discussed.

Cabinet Reports:

Mr. Con reported on the CBO meeting where Joel Montero spoke and what his speech contained. Mr. Con talked about deferrals and how cash flow is reviewed every Monday. More information on cash flow will be presented with the 2nd Interim Report.

Mr. Con reviewed a letter from San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools regarding the district's restoration of five furlough days.

Dr. Tashjian recommended approval of the Consent Calendar. Motion by Dr. Waner to approve the Williams Quarterly Report (October-December 2010), the Payment Report, and the Purchase Order Report as presented on the Consent Calendar. Second by Dr. Turney. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

Information Section

Correspondence

Consent Calendar
M10-11-189

President Zamoyta called for a motion to approve the Second Reading of Big Bear High School's Single Plan for Student Achievement 2010-2011. Motion by Mrs. Grabe to approve the Second Reading of Big Bear High School's Single Plan for Student Achievement 2020-2011. Second by Dr. Turney. President Zamoyta stated he is very excited that technology was one of our goals. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

Curriculum/Inst.
Report
M10-11-190

President Zamoyta called for a motion to approve the Consolidated Application Part II. Motion by Dr. Turney to approve the Consolidated Application Part II. Second by Mr. Putz. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

M10-11-191

Mr. Con reviewed the Measure Q (General Obligation Bond) Performance Audit for the years 2005-2010. President Zamoyta called for a motion to adopt these audits. Motion by Mr. Putz to adopt the Measure Q (General Obligation Bond) Performance Audits for the years 2005-2010 as presented. Second by Dr. Turney. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

Business/Financial
Report
M10-11-192

President Zamoyta noted item 10-b was removed during the adoption of the agenda.

President Zamoyta opened a Public Hearing regarding the Parcel Tax at 9:32 p.m. Hearing no request to address the Board, President Zamoyta closed the Public Hearing at 9:33 p.m.

Public Hearing

Dr. Tashjian recommended the Board postpone action on the Parcel Tax Election until such time as the State Tax Initiative becomes clear.

Dr. Turney made a motion for the District to proceed with the Parcel Tax as presented on the agenda for a level of \$25.00 per parcel. Second by President Zamoyta. Discussion followed: Dr. Waner spoke about people who have called him. He is thinking we are opening a can of worms to fail; we have done our research, we know what people will say. He is not in favor

M10-11-193

at this time. Dr. Turney is thinking everyone understands the financial turmoil not only in Bear Valley but in the State and Nation. No one likes additional taxes/fees; we all hear of the huge budget cuts we have had to absorb. Increase in class size, particularly at the elementary level, has shown curtailment of programs. If the initiatives do not pass, what it means is besides the cuts we are already experiencing, you will have more. The other concern is, if for some reason the initiatives pass, people will think public education is taken care of. President Zamoyta stated a tax at \$25.00 might help bring in \$900,000.00 per year and would help offset some of the cuts. Measure Q was only facilities. The main thing is this takes a 2/3 majority to pass. This leaves it up to the people and takes 2/3 majority to pass it. President Zamoyta does not know of a more fair way to do it. Mrs. Grabe stated there are many people who are in favor of doing what is important for schools but there are many out there who will not vote for any tax. Unless we get out there and educate the public on what this tax would be for and that it stays here in the district; that it will not restore what we had before. Mrs. Grabe stated she thinks we are shooting ourselves in the foot until she is confident the community was educated in what the tax will go for. Mr. Putz stated lets assume we approve this; his concern would be that we are responsible to be able to do all the things in the brochure. His personal perspective is that even with a parcel tax, we will be in a position to do cuts for many years. It will help slow the pain but his concern is it will harm the credibility of the district at some level. He would have to have confidence it will pass to approve it. If he does not have confidence that it will pass, he would feel like he is wasting \$50,000.00 which could be a teacher's salary. He would need to have confidence it would have to pass and what he has seen, he does not think Californians are generally in favor of taxes. Mr. Putz stated he would like to see us figure out a long range plan consistent with what the expectation is set where you start small and grow it. Mr. Putz appreciates the fact that we are willing to consider alternatives and not just take what Sacramento is giving us; to look for alternate sources and recommendations. He is just not confident with doing it right now. Dr. Waner asked Ms. Bowers how she came up with the percentage of voters who were against the parcel tax in her poll. Ms. Bowers stated it was just the online survey.

Dr. Waner stated even Mr. Heath's recommendation up front was we should not go for a parcel tax right now. A member of the public commented on Mr. Putz's idea of starting small and building on it; overspending is the problem. The public is willing to step forward and live with these cuts. It is past time and we need to realize and go forward. You need to bite the bullet and get this massive expense under control. It may take 10 years but it has to be done. President Zamoyta stated regardless of when we go for a parcel tax, the wording is important to say we are trying to mitigate things; we just do not know what is in store. He thought it would be viable now with 60% of the people positive toward it; that it would be a good time to go for a parcel tax. If every stakeholder got on board, we could get those votes. If people understood the extent of the cuts and the impending bankruptcy, he is thinking we would see a big swing in the support. It is only \$25.00. If we go for a very short period of time and tell them the truth, then we would have the opportunity to come back to them and ask for renewal. Mr. Heath wanted to wait until things are more stable; have not seen anything get more stable; then there is a greater incentive in the future if we wait; personally, he has a problem solving this on the backs of students. Dr. Turney stated people have commented that they have talked to people and everyone is against it. Personally, he has had many people state that they support it; that public education is a priority. He feels we stand a good chance of passing it with the proper education and hard work.

President Zamoyta called for the vote. With a vote of two (2) ayes and three (3) nays, the motion failed.

Personnel Report

Dr. Tashjian recommended the approval of the Certificated Personnel Report.

Dr. Turney made a motion to employ as Substitute Teachers for the 2010-2011 school year (Judith Gere/Jesse Kincaid). Second by Mrs. Grabe. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

M10-11-194

Dr. Tashjian recommended approval of the Classified Personnel Report.

Dr. Turney made the motion to approve as district drivers to drive students on field trips and other school related activities for the 2010-2011 school year (Kathryn Nielsen/Jennie McCoy/Jeremy Little). Second by Dr. Waner. President Zamoyta called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved. M10-11-195

Dr. Tashjian announced the Resignation from a Special Education Instructional Aide effective January 21, 2011 (Rochelle Rice).

Suggestions for future meeting agendas:

Dr. Waner would like to discuss the naming of a facility.

President Zamoyta is interested to see the process to start looking into the facts of repurposing a school. Dr. Tashjian stated this will be discussed in Cabinet and he will bring a recommendation to the board. Cabinet will take the FCMAT report and see what we can do in terms of the steps.

Mr. Con was asked to check and see if additional Measure Q money can be used for utility retrofit.

President Zamoyta adjourned the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

Secretary

Clerk of the Board