

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2013, SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Mr. Kurt Madden
Mr. Walter Con
Mrs. Tina Fulmer
Dr. Sandy Sanford
Mrs. Melinda Peterson
Mr. Kevin Amburgey
Mr. Scott Waner
Mrs. Rita Acevedo
Ms. Jeanne Gardner
Mrs. Lisa Hahn
Mrs. Judi Bowers

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

Open Session

All present participated in a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Waner called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Motion by Mrs. Grabe to adopt the agenda for this meeting. Second by Dr. Turney. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved.

Adoption of
Agenda
M12-13-

President Waner called for motions to approve the minutes.

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to approve the minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held on September 4, 2013. Second by Mrs. Grabe. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion as unanimously approved.

M12-13-

Motion by Mr. Putz to approve the minutes of a Board Self Evaluation Meeting held on September 6, 2013. Second by Mr. Zamoyta. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was 4-1 with Dr. Turney abstaining as he was absent from the meeting.

M12-13-

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to approve the minutes of a Board Workshop Meeting held on September 18, 2013. Second by Mrs. Grabe. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved. M12-13-

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to approve the minutes of a Regular Board Meeting Meeting held on October 2, 2013. Second by Mr. Putz. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion as unanimously approved. M12-13-

President Waner called for a motion to approve the Administrative Report. Motion by Mr. Putz to approve the Second Reading and Adoption of the November, 2012 Policy Updates. Second by Mr. Zamoyta. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved. Admin. Report #13-14-007 M12-13-

President Waner called for motions to approve the Curriculum/Instruction Report. Motion by Mrs. Grabe to approve the certificate for Constitutionally Protected Prayer. Second by Dr. Turney. Discussion followed where President Waner noted a copy can be provided if anyone is interested. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion as unanimously approved. Curriculum/Inst. Report M12-13-

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to approve the Academic Advantage program for a home school online learning program for BVUSD grades K-8 at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00 per year to be paid from unrestricted funds. Second by Mrs. Grabe. Discussion followed where President Waner asked what the total number of students are in the program. Currently two. This is for elementary and we need approval from the Board to move forward. Mr. Putz would love to see a status briefing of all the online programs being utilized in the District. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved. M12-13-

President Waner called for a motion to approve the Certificated Personnel Report. Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to employ Kathleen Mac Innes as a Speech, Language Pathologist as a .6 FTE at a total approximate cost of \$41,265.23 for the 13/14 school year to be paid from Special Education funds. Second by Dr. Turney. Discussion followed where President Waner asked if Kathleen will be working with Mrs. Amburgey in order for us to catch up. President Waner called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved. Certificated Personnel #13-14-009

Mr. Madden introduced Mrs. Rita Acevedo to the Governing Board. Mrs. Acevedo is the new Supervisor of our Child Nutrition Department.

President Waner announced the business portion of this meeting was completed and we now would move into the Workshop portion.

Workshop

Presentation of the Common Core State Standards Implementation Plan and the use of Common Core State Standards Funds.

Mr. Madden introduced Ms. Gardner, Instructional Facilitator-Technology. Ms. Gardner explained how Mr. Madden had formed a Common Core State Standards Steering Committee. The committee decided to do four surveys to Certificated Staff, Classified Staff, and to parents of elementary and secondary students. The committee met again on September 30th for the second time. The survey results were reviewed: 40% to new technology (\$208,000.00), 30% to professional development for teachers (\$156,000.00), 20% to instructional materials (\$104,000.00), and 10% to reserves (52,000.00). This totaled a budget of \$520,000.00. Ms. Gardner reviewed the CBEDs numbers by site and showed how much money each site would receive. Each site will need to come up with a plan. Live links were provided where people can view the actual surveys.

A board discussion regarding the budget for Common Core State Standards followed:

Mr. Zamoyta asked once the plan is made, is it set in stone? No. We have been told to keep it simple for structure but be flexible.

Dr. Turney asked if they said what they wanted in regards to professional development? The first preference was conferences; some needing sub days for visitations. Meet with cohorts to develop their own units for common core. Dr. Turney asked if it would be possible to provide sub days and have an expert present the information to teachers in Big Bear rather than having them go off the hill. Maybe send a few teachers to the conference to find the presenters to bring back to Big Bear. The Common Core Steering Committee meets again in November. Dr. Sanford noted professional development can be done many ways. The first choice was conferences which are expensive. There are ways you can send teams to a conference and have them bring the information back. A plan for the conference must be sent to Mrs. Fulmer explaining how they will bring the information back to the departments in the district. Every staff member who attends a conference must bring information back and share the information. Mr. Zamoyta asked if the State gives parameters for professional development. No. An example is Mr. Marquez getting a sub in order to spend time in class rooms. Mr. Putz asked if there is a way to identify experts in positions who then become the district "go to" person in the district or could this be a consideration? Maybe they would be the ones who get to attend the conferences then they are formerly identified as the person to go to in their specialty. Mr. Zamoyta

stated people's passion needs to be clear to the district in order for it to be formalized. Mr. Putz stated there is extreme value in teachers getting together to develop their craft. President Waner asked about the structure of the SPAA days and late start/early out days. Dr. Sanford comes to some of these days. Mrs. Grabe commented that \$104,000.00 is not a lot of money for instructional materials. If we can get teachers to have confidence in the teachers to help them that is the challenge. Common core materials are very expensive. If we can use our own people to come up with instructional materials, our staff would be more inclined to use materials developed from their own people. Mrs. Hahn commented that teachers are already asking for money to use for supplemental materials to develop programs and share with grade levels. Online subscriptions can also come out of this money. Mrs. Grabe stated a good place to start would be to have grade levels meet and look at the type of materials like Mr. Zamoyta found. These are less than \$4.00 per student. There is an online textbook. All are common core aligned. Every student will need a device. Mr. Putz asked if the implementation plan is going to be presented. Mr. Madden answered what is presented tonight will be put into the plan. The goal is to make a smooth transition to the common core and we are coming up with parameters on how we will distribute these funds. Tonight, we are looking for the board's comfort level with the draft of the plan. Would we benefit from some sort of expected outcome that we can measure? Dr. Turney asked if the state would start helping in 2015. Dr. Sanford stated they will have student assessment information. How many units of study do we have prepared for classes? How many teachers do we have for what levels of knowledge with regard to actual instruction? Mr. Putz stated he bets there are districts out there that have already done this. Mr. Zamoyta stated there are rubrics out there. Mrs. Grabe stated principals can be part of saying what is happening in class rooms. At some point, progress on common core could be in the teacher evaluations. The question was asked if Mr. Madden, principals, and coaches could come up with a simple tool to use for class evaluations. Dr. Turney referred to a baseball analogy and asked how we monitor the field practice; the right timing. Mr. Zamoyta stated depths of knowledge comes in and that is where the rubrics come in. There is concern with using the test to measure. Dr. Turney stated he does not want to tell teachers their function and how to spend every last dime. President Waner stated flexibility must be built in.

Funds by Site

President Waner noted the district has just spent some money at CTHS and FVES; so that has to be flexible. Will the district be on top of what they already received? Mr. Madden answered yes. We have to be equitable. It is great to see we are one-to-one at these sites but what are they doing with the

devices? We have to be fair. The IT department must be able to support the site's plan. Dr. Turney stated this is where you fall back on the experts on which device grades should have. Mr. Zamoyta stated you need to be flexible because things come out so fast.

Timeframe of implementation of the funds

Mr. Con stated all the funds must be spent by June 30, 2015.

Elementary District Data Review/Common Core State Standards/Instructional Coaches/Dr. Sanford

Dr. Sanford stated none of these tests except for the Science test in 5th grade will exist anymore. AB 484 put legislation in place that states we do not have to give the tests. Dr. Sanford reviewed API and AYP and noted these will not be given this year or next. Dr. Sanford reviewed each elementary school site. Mr. Waner explained the preparation for Common Core State Standards at Big Bear Elementary School and how technology continues to increase. He is trying to reduce the number of combo classes at BBES. Mr. Amburgey stated they have been teaching skills over the last two years at North Shore Elementary School. As they transition, they need to provide time for professional development. The Summer Institute provided teachers an opportunity to begin writing new units. Mrs. Hahn holds quarterly meetings to collaborate. Teachers implement it based on performance task by quarter. They are encouraging more Project Based Learning at NSES. Mrs. Peterson stated Baldwin Lane Elementary School is focusing on the transition to the Common Core State Standards. They are integrating technology throughout the curriculum where projects utilize hands on approaches. Students are paired up to solve problems. Students also lead presentations with Google. Students participate in science exploration and writing practice. Mrs. Hahn stated the focus at Fallsvale Elementary School is transition to the Common Core State Standards while maintaining academic excellence and high scores. Staff development and curriculum development are also a focus. There is a blended approach to instructional strategies at FVES with the goal being a one-to-one student ratio with technology.

Mr. Zamoyta asked what number of grade levels do we have where class rooms are flipped? Each principal explained how this is done at their site. President Waner asked if scores have dropped in the State and County? Yes. The standards that were measured were not what was being taught. It is a transition. Growth and non-growth is related to a specific ethnicity. Hispanics were lower, however, at BLES went up. The whole Hispanic score is made up of some students that are English learners. Mr. Zamoyta stated they are upset in New York because the test scores went down because they went to the Common Core. Dr. Sanford stated you can take sample

questions; the SBAC is not available until 2015. We would expect it to go down; it cannot be indexed.

GATE Program Discussion

Mr. Waner stated all sites continue to identify students in the third grade based on teacher recommendation. Most teachers have certificates or have gone through training with Mr. DeLandsheer. The use of Chrome books, iPods, and iPads allow students to move at a different rate. Recommendations from close reading are not just for GATE students; it is good for all students. BBES chose to fund a GATE Coordinator on their own. The State swept GATE funds. At the end of last year, BBES had 15 GATE identified students. They do not have a funded GATE program but the people with the training and strategies are using them in their classes. The students identified are receiving instructional strategies. The GATE Coordinator is mostly used for testing. The COGAT is used in third grade mostly on teacher recommendation. They do not have a formal program. Dr. Turney stated, in the past, parents and board members took students down to visit JPL illustrating there are other ways to get GATE students to field trips. Dr. Turney always wondered why we waited until the third grade to identify for GATE. There are a lot of programs that identified students at very young ages. Mr. Zamoyta stated his understanding is a GATE program in school where students are clustered all day every day. It seems like a good use of Mr. DeLandsheer to see if he can come in and tell us the best way to deal with GATE students. You try to distribute the GATE students evenly throughout the site. Mr. Zamoyta finds it strange that a GATE program would be field trips. We clustered more before our teachers were trained in GATE. A large majority of our teachers have a GATE Certification or have been trained by Mr. DeLandsheer. This includes almost every teacher except for the new teachers. Mr. Zamoyta bets one of your untrained teachers would be the one you would put your GATE students with. The new teachers, even though they are not certified, they are teaching GATE strategies. Mrs. Grabe stated as we get further into project based instruction, we will be doing what is expected in GATE and that will be good for all of our students. Wonderful instruction should be available to all students. Dr. Turney stated that he personally knows people who are very gifted and they dropped out of school because they were not part of a clustered group. If you can afford to, there is benefit for these students to be together. \$18,000.00 to \$20,000.00 was what we received for the district prior to the State sweeping those funds. Mr. Putz asked much money it would take to do an appropriate GATE program? NSES is trying to develop classes paid for by extra duty units. Mrs. Grabe stated it is supposed to take place during school. Dr. Turney stated our district can spend a great deal of money on Special Education but not

on GATE. At BLES, it is hard to have all GATE students in one class. There are different reasons for putting them in different classes. Ms. Gardner explained her technology class. Dr. Turney asked if we have any idea how we can identify and assist students who are gifted in the arts? There are many examples of students who did not blossom until they were out of K-12. The online program, Academic Advantage, has a foreign language program but it is \$100.00 per student. It is done through a virtual academy which has an annual subscription. It always comes down to funding. Mr. Putz asked if any of the board members are comfortable in giving direction to get a proposal for a GATE program for the district and what the budget would be and where the funding would come from. Mr. Con stated with the new funding model, most of these types of programs will come through the LCFF. It would be important to include it in the LCAP – GATE, Deferred Maintenance, and textbooks. Mr. Zamoyta stated the most qualified is Mr. Delandtsheer to come in for an overview of the district and what will work at our school sites. Mr. Madden stated we could have a GATE program. We need to designate funds for a person to do testing. Mr. Madden is concerned with what is going on in the class room. Clustering of students is a concern; differentiation for these students.

The Governing Board reached a consensus to re-establish a GATE Program in Bear Valley Unified School District.

Mr. Madden notified the board of his receipt of a resignation notification from Mr. Keith Moore, Safety Assistant at Big Bear Middle School effective November 1, 2013.

President Waner adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Secretary

Clerk of the Board