

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON FEBRUARY 1, 2017, SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE

Present: Dr. Stephen Foulkes  
Mr. John Goepf  
Mrs. Beverly Grabe  
Mrs. Cathy Herrick  
Ms. Sudie Smartt

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Mary Suzuki  
Dr. Lisa Waner  
Mrs. Linda Rosado

President Foulkes called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. at the School District Office. Open Session

President Foulkes called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Motion by Mrs. Grabe to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Second by Mr. Goepf. President Foulkes called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote: Adoption of Agenda M16-17-060  
AYES: Foulkes/Goepf/Grabe/Herrick  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Mrs. South thanked the Maintenance Department, Custodians, and Bus Drivers for their very hard work during the storms. They all have worked very hard. Mrs. South also thanked Dr. Suzuki, Mr. Bell, and Mrs. Rosado for their full support with items going on with Unions and how they have supported the maintenance staff at sites. Union Comments

President Foulkes called for Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda items. Hearing no request to make Public Comment, President Foulkes adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 5:05 p.m. Public Comment

Pursuant to Government Code 54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators: Agency Negotiators: Mrs. Linda Rosado, Executive Director of Business Services and Dr. Mary Suzuki, Superintendent of Schools. Two Bargaining Units: B.V.E.A. and CSEA Chapter #415 Closed Session

President Foulkes called the meeting back to Open Session at 5:30 p.m. Open Session

All present participated in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Foulkes announced no action was taken during the Closed Session.

President Foulkes opened the Hearing Section at 5:31 p.m. Mr. Michael Perry presented a check to the Healthy Start Supervisor, Mrs. Tanya Perry and explained how the donation came about. The donation was made anonymously in the amount of \$5,000.00 after the donor read an article in the Grizzly regarding the Healthy Start Program. The donation was made to the Lighthouse Project; the Lighthouse Project is issuing to BVUSD. Hearing no further requests to make Public Comments, President Foulkes closed the Hearing Section at 5:33 p.m.

Hearing  
Section

Dr. Foulkes opened the Governing Board Member Interviews. The first candidate is Ms. Stirling Elliott. Ms. Elliott stated she worked for the City and Fire Department, is a CPA, and a parent. Mrs. Grabe asked Ms. Elliott what a great education would look like. Ms. Elliott answered it would build the student's confidence and would result in success in the workplace and life. Mr. Goepf asked Ms. Elliott about the District strengths and weaknesses she identified in her application. Ms. Elliott answered professional development can always be improved upon; technology is always moving forward; regarding maintenance, sites are old and can be improved upon. One-to-one technology is something we need to review every year to be sure we are adequate. Mrs. Herrick asked how Ms. Elliott would solicit community and parent perspectives. Ms. Elliott explained as a parent, she is proud of the education her child is getting noting she is always with other parents. She would be proud to represent the district. Mrs. Grabe asked Ms. Elliott to elaborate on Mrs. Herrick's question. Ms. Elliott stated she is very social and involved in activities; she would welcome advice and constructive criticism. She feels she would take it all into account if people had an issue or suggestion or advice. Dr. Foulkes asked Ms. Elliott how she would ensure she was provided with accurate and complete information. Ms. Elliott stated she would want to go directly to the source (employee) and ask questions as long as she is allowed too; she would ask questions until she was comfortable. Mr. Goepf asked how Ms. Elliott would handle being confronted by a parent. Ms. Elliott stated she would listen and treat the concern with respect; she would ask the appropriate questions to the appropriate department; find out more for the parent. She would bring this concern to the Board and as a team, would make a decision. Mrs. Herrick asked how Ms. Elliott would interact on issues with other board members. Ms. Elliott answered she would follow the Brown Act strictly. She has no intention of going behind backs. Would not discuss outside of the board room and with no more than one party. Dr. Foulkes noted Ms. Elliott worked for Big Bear Fire and now is self-employed. Ms. Elliott stated she was laid off on December 23<sup>rd</sup> from the City. The Fire Department asked her to come and help them; the position was eliminated due to budget constraints. Mrs. Grabe

Interviews

asked Ms. Elliott if there is anything she would like to add. Ms. Elliott thanked the Governing Board for the opportunity and stated she would really like to be part of the team. She is very proud of the District and would like to represent the District.

The second candidate is Mr. Barry Roth. Mr. Roth stated he was a high school physical education teacher in St. Thomas (basketball and tennis) and is a team player. He was also a jewelry executive where he garnered human resources experience. Mr. Roth has lived in Big Bear for over 20 years noting his children attended BVUSD. Mr. Roth taught in BVUSD – CTHS for 15 years and BBHS teaching Customer Service and Life Skills. Mr. Roth was a basketball and tennis coach in BVUSD and has community ties. Mr. Roth was the creator of the Bear Paw sticker. The goals Mr. Roth has is to make sure the great education his daughter received continues. Mr. Roth gave Kudos to all staff that is involved helping the students to be safe and successful in life. Mrs. Grabe asked Mr. Roth to describe a great education. Mr. Roth answered a district where teachers put their thoughts into giving a wonderful education in order for the students to prosper and be successful. Mr. Goepf asked Mr. Roth to explain the strengths and weaknesses of the district he noted in his application. Mr. Roth answered as a ROP instructor, at the end of the year, he would give students an essay to write regarding what was covered during the year. He would improve the writing, grammar, life skills/customer service, and provide PE at the elementary age. Dr. Foulkes asked Mr. Roth to explain how he would suggest we deal with these needs. Mr. Roth explained he would place more of an emphasis on writing, grammar, PE, and the teachers can include this in their curriculum. Mrs. Herrick asked Mr. Roth how he would solicit parent and community input. Mr. Roth stated, by being a coach and being involved in the community; be diplomatic; listen; give proper answers; send to higher up. Mrs. Grabe asked how Mr. Roth would interact with the district administration, Dr. Suzuki, with other board members. Mr. Roth answered he will ask questions; be brutally honest and ask-getting answers and making sure he has all the information to ask questions. Dr. Foulkes stated that Mr. Roth had noted producing graduates as a strength; Dr. Foulkes asked Mr. Roth to elaborate on this. Mr. Roth stated you need to ask where the students are going; they need to be prepared to attend a vocational school, to be productive in the community, to get a good job. You need data and you need to follow the students after graduation. Gather feedback through surveys. Mr. Goepf asked Mr. Roth to explain how he would handle a parent who confronts him. Mr. Roth stated he would listen to the concerns and would look into it for them; he would let the parent know it would be appropriate for them to call the superintendent and he would provide the superintendent's number to them. Mrs. Herrick asked how Mr. Roth would interact with fellow board members. Mr. Roth answered he cannot speak with more than three people or that would be a meeting. No conflict of interests. If he had concerns, he would speak with a group of board members or the superintendent. Dr. Foulkes asked how Mr. Roth would further research items to get the bigger picture. Mr. Roth answered he would

go on the internet to find data on the issue; he is concerned with talking with other people in the educational field to get the big picture. Mrs. Grabe asked if there was anything Mr. Roth would like to add. Mr. Roth stated he has lived in Big Bear for over 20 years and he is an integral part of the community. His honesty and humor would be a good addition to the board.

The third candidate is Ms. Sudie Smartt. Ms. Smartt explained she was a teacher in BVUSD for over 19 years noting she loved teaching it was just time to retire. Teaching is very important work and very fulfilling work. She felt a need to have something as fulfilling again. She is attending school at UCSD and really missed being involved in education. In reviewing her goals, Ms. Smartt stated what the district is doing is on the right path. Blended Learning and the Virtual Academy is 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. She would like to be a part of bringing more energy to education. Mrs. Grabe asked Ms. Smartt what a great education looks like. Ms. Smartt stated it should be tailor made; no cookie cutter. Each and every student succeeds; each child met. Ms. Smartt had two children attend BVUSD schools. There should be something for every student. Mr. Goepp asked Ms. Smartt to elaborate on the strengths and weaknesses of BVUSD she noted on her application. Ms. Smartt stated it is important to keep in communication with the community. There needs to be a relationship with sites, principals, and administrative staff. Constant and mindful of all responsibilities, how we communicate, and are we doing this well. We can focus easier being a small district. We should use that strength. Ensure it is valid things we are doing; we are fortunate with our set up. Place more emphasis on mutual respect, determination, and grit. Mrs. Herrick asked Ms. Smartt how she would solicit parent and community input. Ms. Smartt stated how interactions can take place at Stater Bros., Vons, the post office, etc. This is a positive of a small community; you are in a fishbowl. Listen, be respectful, ask questions, open channels, surveys, coffee meetings, meetings. Hit them all – Grizzly/Kbhr. Dr. Foulkes questioned how the “fishbowl” could be a strength. Ms. Smartt stated you are automatically an integral part; you are not anonymous when you live here. Continual monitoring; data analysis is constant. There is a value to data and it should be used to drive our focus where effective. She sees it is valued and necessary. Any way to see the effectiveness of our decisions. Mrs. Grabe asked how Ms. Smartt would interact with other board members. Ms. Smartt stated with mutual respect; treating each other with kindness and respect is crucial; reach a consensus. Mr. Goepp asked how Ms. Smartt would handle being confronted by a parent. Ms. Smartt stated she would listen and provide them with the name and number of who to contact. She would write it down and provide to the appropriate department. She would follow up with them. She would offer to help as complaints can snowball; make sure it is being addressed. Mrs. Herrick asked Ms. Smartt how she would interact with administration. Ms. Smartt stated she was able to get necessary information she needed and she always had good luck with working with administration. Administration is professional; she would continue the mutual respect she has with administration. Dr. Foulkes asked Ms. Smartt how

she would respond if approached by a teacher and B.V.E.A. representative. Ms. Smartt stated she would respond that she cannot talk about items. Ms. Smartt added it was very interesting being a site rep for B.V.E.A. She learned the limits well. B.V.E.A. is a committed and sincere group of people and she was proud to be part of that. Mrs. Grabe commented on Ms. Smartt's statement of having energy left, her love of education, and being very attached to BVUSD. Ms. Smartt stated students are doing incredible things; she sees this as a great jumping off point. This is a very unique district and she would like to be part of it.

Dr. Foulkes thanked all three candidates and stated the district appreciates their interest in BVUSD and the time they have put into this process. Dr. Foulkes asked each seated board member to summarize the interviews: Mrs. Grabe stated she is very impressed with all three candidates and any would be a positive addition to this board. All three have great skills to add to the board. Dr. Foulkes agrees with Mrs. Grabe's statements. Two are retired teachers; one a CPA. All have or have had students attend BVUSD. All three want to improve the district and each brings different strengths. It comes down to who is the best fit. Dr. Foulkes chooses Ms. Smartt; however, he would support any majority decision.

Mr. Goepf thanked all three candidates for taking part in this activity. He knows how it feels having gone through it himself. Mr. Goepf commented to the candidates, even if you are not selected, he encouraged them to continue to pursue civic service if that is your passion and asked them to please stay interested in the district as change happens. Mr. Goepf stated we have a good chemistry and we are strategists with a system level thought process. Mr. Goepf chooses Mr. Roth. Mrs. Herrick stated she also knows this is a very difficult process having gone through it herself. Mrs. Herrick stated everyone had very good answers. She suggested each read the Fieldbook provided to them. Mrs. Herrick stated the best prepared was Ms. Smartt noting she did her homework and answered the questions professionally.

Mrs. Grabe added when she evaluates the answers to the questions, all candidates answered well; this is difficult.

Mrs. Grabe made the motion to appoint Ms. Sudie Smartt to fill the seat vacated by Mr. Zamoyta. Second by Mrs. Herrick. President Foulkes called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

M16-17-061

AYES: Foulkes/Goepf/Grabe/Herrick  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Dr. Suzuki administered the oath to Ms. Smartt as the newly appointed Governing Board Member.

President Foulkes adjourned the meeting for a break at 6:32 p.m.	Break
President Foulkes called the meeting back to Open Session at 6:40 p.m.	Open Session
Baily Towsley reported on sport and club events at BBHS. Rosalie announced she graduated CTHS today.	Student Rep Report
President Foulkes called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion by Mr. Goepf to approve the Consent Calendar as follows: Big Bear High School Volunteer Track Coach for 2016-2017 (Mckenzie Wolf) 2015-2016 School Accountability Report Cards Purchase Order Report Numbers 170640 through 170664 Second by Mrs. Herrick. President Foulkes called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote: AYES: Foulkes/Goepf/Grabe/Herrick/Smartt NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None	Consent Calendar M16-17-062
No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.	
Dr. Suzuki reviewed the Correspondence Item: Letter from the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools recognizing BVUSD's 2016-17 First Interim Financial Report and noted no action is required for this item. Mrs. Herrick commented that she is happy to see a positive certification; however, it did come with some concerns. Overall, the tone was to proceed cautiously keeping a close eye on ADA and the multi-year projections. We need to pay attention to our numbers and bottom line as well as long term debt. We need to proceed cautiously.	Information Section
Dr. Suzuki congratulated Ms. Smartt. Dr. Suzuki offered a thank you to Maintenance, Transportation, and the Custodial staff for their hard work during the storms; they are all incredible people. A thank you was offered to our new teachers; we held a mid-year meeting; we have some of the most innovative new teachers. The teachers shared their victories during this meeting. Dr. Suzuki noted we have five snow days to make up.	
Mrs. Herrick welcomed Ms. Smartt stating it will be nice to have a full board seated again and she appreciates Ms. Smartt's participation. Mrs. Herrick thanked Dr. Suzuki for stepping up to the plate and calling the snow days. Mrs. Herrick thanked Maintenance noting the team did a great job. Mrs. Grabe welcomed Ms. Smartt. Mrs. Grabe cannot thank Mr. Planz enough for what the team has done. Mrs. Grabe noted the Girls' Basketball Varsity team is mostly freshman noting the girls really represent themselves well; she is very proud of all the teams.	Board Member Comments

Ms. Smartt stated she is happy to be here and noted she has a lot to learn.

Ms. Smartt thanked the other board members and stated she is looking forward to serving on the Governing Board.

Dr. Foulkes stated to Ms. Smartt, if there is anything any of the board members can do to help, just ask. Everything goes through Dr. Suzuki; however, we can arrange whatever you need. Dr. Foulkes congratulated the Maintenance Department on how well the sites were cleared of snow and asked Mr. Planz to pass the appreciation along to his team.

Mrs. Rosado reviewed Prop 39 Options noting we have contracted with Schneider Electric. Schneider Electric has submitted all required paperwork for the funding allocation. The district expenditure would come from RDA monies. We can work with Schneider Electric to create the options; whatever, we feel would be best for the district's needs. Multi-zone is a high priority. Need to couple with exterior lighting to obtain the SIR.

Cabinet  
Reports

Dr. Waner updated the Governing Board on the ELA Adoption noting we are looking at two publishers. Teachers are reviewing now. We will meet to discuss piloting. We are looking to do grades 7-12 of the same publisher. The elementary meeting is scheduled and we are hoping to be ready for the Fall. Dr. Waner will be reviewing the budget with Mrs. Rosado. The Chromebooks should arrive by February 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Chatham and his team are ready to work on them and get them out to students. We have a new system to monitor and track these devices. iPads are going out starting February 2<sup>nd</sup>; these are for K-2. New teachers are excited for the one-to-one.

President Foulkes announced the Public Notification of the District's Proposal between CSEA Chapter #415 and BVUSD. This proposal will be sun-shined until February 15, 2017.

Admin. Report  
#16-17-006

President Foulkes opened a Public Hearing and Public Comment opportunity at 7:30 p.m. regarding the California School Employees Association Chapter #415 Initial Proposal. Hearing no request to make a public comment, President Foulkes closed the public hearing at 7:31 p.m. Negotiations may begin on February 16, 2017 following the Public Hearing/Public Comment on the District Proposal.

Personnel  
Report  
Classified  
#16-17-003

Suggestions for future board meeting agendas: Dr. Suzuki noted the Innovative Programs presentation is scheduled for the March 1, 2017 board meeting. President Foulkes noted a schedule will be set up during the next agenda review meeting regarding the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Values discussions.

President Foulkes adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

---

Secretary

---

President of the Board