

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON JANUARY 22, 2008**

TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

McClellan, California

January 23, 2008

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING - January 8, 2008**

The Board of Trustees of the New North Area Unified School District met in a regular session at 5107 Dudley Blvd., Building 250, Bay-B, McClellan, CA. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. Board Members present were: Trustees Bob Bastian, Alecia K. Eugene-Chasten, Linda Fowler, Janis Green, Cortez Quinn, Michelle Rivas and Roger Westrup. Administration present was: Interim Superintendent Frank Porter. President Linda Fowler presided. The flag salute was led by Trustee Bastian.

Welcome

President Fowler welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and introduced the members of the Board, Superintendent Frank Porter, Associate Superintendent of Business Services Support Rob Ball, Associate Superintendent of Employer/Employee Relations/Human Resources Patty Smart, Legal Counsel Tim Cary, Consultant Joel Kirschenstein, Secretary Vicki Thraillkill.

Hearing of Parties

President Fowler opened the Hearing of Parties. The following people addressed the Board:

Eric DeMarco, Community member and member of the Terrace Park Neighborhood Association, asked the Board to get involved in getting a school built on Greg Thatch Circle in North Natomas. Mr. DeMarco said he has been working hard along with Superintendent Porter, Mr. Tim Hammons and the City of Sacramento to ensure that the school property is purchased from D.R. Horton, who has been playing hardball with the cost of the property. The 195 members of the Terrace Park Association have set the purchase of land from D.R. Horton as a high priority and having a school built on this property is extremely important.

Rudy Angel, Custodian at Rio Linda High School, and President of CSEA Region 25, wants to maintain the communication between CSEA and the districts. He said he wants to see that the goals of the Association and Chapters are carried out by working together with the District in a partnership for a smooth transition. Mr. Angel said that together we can achieve something great in this District.

Wendy Jackson, teacher at Rio Linda High School, said she is looking forward to working with the Board and hopes the Board will listen to all concerns and especially keep everything that is working well at all schools. Ms. Jackson invited the Board to visit the campuses or spend a day or a portion of the day at her school with her and her students.

Robert Wadman congratulated the Board and welcomed them to the new District. He said that he would like to see the Board keep the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program in the forefront and make this one of the most important cores on our campuses. Mr. Wadman said he would like to see the Board support VAPA at all levels from kindergarten through high school.

Velma Strong, Del Paso Heights School District Board member, commended staff for bringing the teachers and classified together in planning the calendar for the 2008/09 school year. She said this is the first time we have had an opportunity to come together as a team to work. Ms. Strong said, speaking on behalf of the children in the District, the Board needed to make sure that our children are moving ahead academically since many of our schools are in School Improvement programs, and Summer School programs will help address these needs of our children. Ms. Strong asked the Board to please put the achievement of our students at the head of your agenda.

Dave Berry, teacher at Rio Linda High School, congratulated the Board on their election. Regarding the name for the new district, Mr. Berry said, after looking over the list of suggested district names, he had a concern with the district being named Norte Del Rio because of gang affiliation.

Erwin Hayer, a community member who lives next to Rio Linda Junior High School, spoke in support of the Grant Police.

Effren Gutierrez said he graduated from Norte Del Rio High School. Norte Del Rio means North of the River and does not represent any gang land mentality. It represents the Latino community.

No one else came forward; the hearing was closed.

## Consent Agenda

Trustee Rivas moved, seconded by Trustees Westrup, to approve the following Consent Agenda:

Under Consent Agenda 3-a - Approve Contract for Legal Services with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, Trustee Quinn asked why other law firms were not before the Board. President Fowler said AALRR has been very affective working with Rio Linda District and surrounding district and it seemed acceptable to have them on board with the new district.

- a. Approve Contract for Legal Services with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo.
- b. Approve the following:
  - (1) Revised job descriptions for Associate Superintendent, Employer/Employee Relations/Human Resources, the Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Academic Achievement, and Associate Superintendent, Business Support Services.
  - (2) Job description and salary schedule for Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.
  - (3) Job description and salary schedule for Director of Communications.
  - (4) Revised job description for Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Assistant Superintendent, Employer/Employee Relations.
  - (5) Revised Job description for Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Programs, PreK-6 and Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Programs, 7-12.
  - (6) Job description for Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services/Community Relations.
  - (7) Revised job specification and salary schedule for Director of Student Athletics
  - (8) Revised job specification and proposed salary schedule for Director of Student Activities.
  - (9) Job description for Chief, Financial Officer.
- c. Approve the Substitute Teacher rates for the 2008/09 school year.
- d. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of December 18, 2007.

The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No: 0)

## Community Summit

Superintendent Porter stated in a continuing effort to engage stakeholders in the process of creating the new unified district, a series of community summits are planned this winter and spring. Springboard Schools has provided a proposal for the first of these summits. A Community Summit has been planned for the afternoon of January 26, 2008, after an already planned parent/community event at the opening of a regional Parent Information Resource Center at Oakdale Elementary School. Superintendent Porter said in an effort to capture these parents and community members, the afternoon event will offer refreshments, child care, and translations. The three-hour session will

be designed to accomplish three goals: 1) provide updated information about the actions and plans of the new District; 2) present information about the future needs of students; 3) begin a “visioning” process, whereby participants share their values and beliefs about the practices of the new district. Additional summits are being planned for February and early April.

Superintendent Porter recommended that the Board approve the proposed Community Summit on January 26, 2008 at the Oakdale Community Center. He said the proposal has also been reviewed by Dr. Ramona Bishop, Interim Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Achievement, Patty Smart, Interim Associate Superintendent of Employer/Employee Relations/Human Resources and Assistant Superintendent of Business Support Services.

Trustee Quinn moved, seconded by Trustee Rivas, to approve the proposed Community Summit on January 26, 2008 at the Oakdale Community Center. The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No: 0)

Preliminary  
2007/2008  
Transitional  
Budget

Rob Ball, Associate Superintendent, Business Support Services, reviewed the Preliminary 2007/2008 New North Area Unified School District Transitional Budget. President Fowler said the North Sacramento School District Board of Trustees did approve money coming into the new district. Associate Superintendent Ball said a final budget will be brought before the Board at the next meeting for the Board's approval. There was a discussion regarding the lease for the new District Office.

Trustee Quinn moved, seconded by Trustee Bastian, to approve the Preliminary 2007/2008 New North Area Unified School District Transitional Budget. The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No 0)

Communications

The Board had not communications to share.

Selection of  
District Name

President Fowler said thanked everyone who had participated in naming the new district. She said the community certainly showed it cared by providing the Board with 550 suggested names. Tim Cary, Legal Counsel, handed out additional information on naming the district.

Associate Superintendent Rob Ball said each Board member had two choices for the name of the new district, and their choices were read out loud. Mr. Ball said because the new district crosses Sacramento and Placer county lines, the word “Joint” could be included in the name of the new district.

Superintendent Porter explained the process the Board had in choosing a name.

President Fowler asked for a discussion to be held among the Board regarding why they chose the names they did choose.

Superintendent Porter said the Board could go through another round and vote again to see if there is a change in the ranking.

Recess

President Fowler declared a recess at 8:05 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:42 p.m.

Selection of  
District Name

Trustee Westrup asked Trustee Bastian to give the Board some history on the name Elkhorn.

Rob Ball showed the choices of the Board members. After the second choice was made, Capital City Unified School District was first, Elkhorn Unified was second and Twin Rivers Unified was third.

Trustee Cortez moved, seconded by Trustee Chasten, that the Board name the new district Capital City Unified.

Since there were names of people suggested as the name of the district, Trustee Westrup asked the Board if it would be beneficial to have more information on these people. Discussion was held. Trustee Westrup withdrew the suggestion.

A roll call vote was held regarding naming the new district Capital City Unified School District:

Trustee Quinn: Yes  
Trustee Green: No  
Trustee Bastian: Yes  
President Fowler: No  
Trustee Rivas: No  
Trustee Chasten: Yes  
Trustee Westrup: No

The motion failed. (Ayes: three; No: 4)

Trustee Westrup moved, seconded by Trustee Quinn, to name the district Twin River Unified School District. A roll call vote was held:

Trustee Quinn: Yes  
Trustee Green: Yes  
Trustee Bastian: Yes  
President Fowler: No  
Trustee Rivas: No  
Trustee Chasen: Yes  
Trustee Westrup: Yes

The Board approved the name of the new district to be Twin Rivers Unified School District. The motion carried. (Ayes: 5; No: 2)

President Fowler thanked everyone for helping to lay the foundation for the new school district and that it will take everyone to make this district truly exceptional and successful.

Resol No. 2  
MOU for Mutual  
Aid &  
Emergency  
Response

Trustee Westrup moved, seconded by Trustee Bastian, to adopt Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing Administration to Negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding for Mutual Aid and Emergency Response with Sacramento County Public Agencies. Superintendent Porter said the North Area Superintendents have met and discussed the need for an emergency services agreement. Out of these meetings, an organizing committee was formed and agreed that the initial focus would be the formation of a mutual support network between the North Area School districts. Superintendent Porter said the network would provide mutual assistance in the time of crisis in one or more schools or districts in the mutual aid network.

Trustee Westrup reported that the North Sacramento School District Board of Trustees adopted this resolution as their board meeting last night.

Trustee Quinn asked why the Grant Police Department is not mentioned in the resolution. Superintendent Porter said this is a common resolution being adopted by all districts, but when the completed mutual aid agreement is brought back before the Board, the Grant Police Department will be incorporated in the agreement. Superintendent Porter said Natomas and Robla School District took the lead on the resolution and by not including the Grant Police Department was an oversight.

Trustee Rivas said, before agreeing to add Grant Police Force to the mutual aid agreement, she would like to know if there are any other districts that have an agreement with their police force included.

Trustee Quinn said the Grant Police Forces is a viable agency and should not be overlooked and should be included in this Memorandum of Understanding. Superintendent Porter anticipates that the mutual aid agreement which was coordinated in case of an emergency, such as flooding in Natomas, would coordinate emergency services with law enforcement agencies and other emergency services, including the Sheriff's Department, City Police and the Grant Police Force. The District would need to rely on the Grant Police Force. Trustee Westrup said this is a short-term interim mutual aid agreement which authorizes the Superintendent to proceed and work with

the other superintendents to correct their oversight. Trustee Green said she did not see why the District would not accept the resources of the Grant Police Force since they are not an outside entity. Trustee Bastian said this is a preliminary agreement to the actual agreement.

The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No: 0)

Lease of  
Building 250  
McClellan Park

Trustee Bastian moved, seconded by Trustee Quinn, to approve the lease of Building 250 (Bay B) at McClellan Park, as presented. Associate Superintendent Ball stated the facility would house the Interim Administrative Offices and will be the location for all future scheduled Board meetings. As it becomes necessary when additional staff is hired, the District Office staff will also be located in this building with an expectation of housing as many as possible until additional space is required. He said Building 250 Bay C adjacent to this office will be available for expansion when and if necessary. The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No: 0)

Interim  
Employment  
Policy Statement

Consultant Joel Kirschenstein said the Interim Employment Policy Statement is being brought before the Board for their consideration and possible adoption regarding the employee rights in the four existing school districts that will become a part of the New North Area Unified School District on July 1, 2008. Dr. Kirschenstein said he thought it would be prudent for the Board to explain all the issues to the employees in the four districts and to clarify that the New North Area Unified School District will not issue March 15 notices to any employees of the existing four districts. He said none of the four districts will be issuing the March 15 notices. All certificated employees below the district management level will have the same employment rights with the New North Area Unified School District that they would have had with their existing school districts per the requirements of Education Code section 35555. All District Office Administrators in the four existing districts will be meeting with Superintendent Porter to discuss assignments for the 2008/09 school year, and it is the intent of the New North Area Unified School District Administration to post positions that have not been filled prior to February 20, 2008. Dr. Kirschenstein said the existing collective bargaining agreements will be honored until the process to merge the collective bargaining agreements has been concluded. The Site Principals from all four existing districts will be asked to submit and present preliminary staffing plans and assignments to the New North Area Unified School District.

Legal Counsel Tim Cary stated that Superintendent Porter is proposing to send a copy of the policy statement to all certificated and classified employees of the component schools districts. This Interim Employment Policy Statement assures all employees that the District will honor all employment rights guaranteed to employees by the California Education Code. The proposed policy statement also outlines the basic intentions of the Board regarding the employment issues of the new district and its implementation plans for addressing these employment issues.

Trustee Bastian moved, seconded by Trustee Chasten, to adopt the proposed Interim Employment Policy Statement and authorize the Interim Superintendent to transmit the Interim Employment Policy Statement to all current employees of the four existing school districts that will merge into the new North Area Unified School District on July 1, 2008.

Trustee Rivas asked how the employees will receive this information. She said the districts must be diligent and make sure all the employees are getting this information.

Superintendent Porter said his intention is to mail the letter to the employee's home address in the Rio Linda School District, and will be asking Grant Joint Union High School District and Del Paso height School District to do the same. Associate Superintendent Smart said North Sacramento School District will also be mailing the letter to their employee's home address.

Tim Cary said copies of both the letter and Interim Employment Policy Statement will be sent to the Presidents of the teacher and classified unions.

The motion carried. (Ayes: 7; No: 0)

Interim  
Superintendent  
Report

Superintendent Porter said he was delighted the Board had selected a name for the new district.

Superintendent Porter thanked Ruth Hall and the Purchasing Department, Maintenance and Operations and Julie Struckmeyer for all of their hard work in getting the interim District Office up and running.

Superintendent Porter reported that he has personally been meeting with members of the management staff from all four districts. He said it has been tremendously gratifying to hear the enthusiasm and interest in genuinely making this a successful launch to the new district. He has met with 47 people since December 26, 2007.

Superintendent Porter announced that he would be attending the League of California High Schools Conferences in Monterey beginning on Thursday with a total of 21 people including principals and teacher from the Grant Joint Union High School District. He said in February he would be attending a middle school conference with middle school principals and teachers.

Superintendent Porter said, with the approval tonight of the job descriptions, staff will be posting several positions and seeking applicants from within the north area unified. He said this is a part of our continuing effort to blend, merge, unite and improve the delivery of educational services by building this exemplary unified school district. Superintendent Porter said staff will continue to bring before the Board additional new job descriptions and, depending on staffing needs, proceed with job postings.

Superintendent Porter said he will be sending an invitation to each current north area superintendent and their Board Presidents inviting them to schedule one of their district's performing arts groups to perform at an upcoming Twin Rivers Unified School District Board meeting. He said Foothill Jr. High will be doing a presentation as the January 22, 2008 Board meeting and North Sacramento School District will do a presentation in March, which is Arts Education Month.

Trustee Green asked where the job postings would be posted. Associate Superintendent Smart said hard copies will be sent to each district, with a link on current districts web sites and hopefully a new web site for Twin Rivers Unified School District will be up and running.

Organizations

Cindy Meadows, President of CSEA Chapter 290 in Rio Linda Union School District, reported that all four chapters were represented at tonight's Board meeting.

John Ennis, President of the Grant Teachers Union, stated that everyone is working to blend contracts, and the 2008/09 calendar.

A representative from the Grant Police Officers Association presented information to the Board and invited the Board to come and meet with the officers and do a ride-along. Grant Police Officer Association stands ready to assist the district in any issues related to public safety or anything else they can help with.

Janet Schafer, sixth grade teacher in the North Sacramento School District and CSEA President, said she was happy the district finally had a name.

Board  
Comments

Trustee Quinn wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting. Trustee Quinn said he was looking forward to the next phase of selecting a logo for the District.

Trustee Green thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting, and stated that she appreciated everyone who spoke before the Board tonight. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Trustee Bastian wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated the

Board and Superintendent Porter for all their hard work. He thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting. Trustee Bastian announced that the Sacramento Metro Fire District was holding an Open House on January 12 to announce the opening of the new fire house in Rio Linda.

Trustee Rivas thanked everyone who participated in naming the district. She thanked Superintendent Porter for all his work in running both the Rio Linda District and the new District. Trustee Rivas said he has helped to make this process a smooth transition.

Trustee Chasten wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked the public for attending the Board meeting and keeping the Board focused to building a strong school district.

Trustee Westrup thanked everyone for their continued participation in attending the meetings. He said he appreciated all of his colleagues, the superintendent and staff for all their hard work.

President Fowler thanked everyone for coming out tonight, Superintendent Porter for all the hard work he has been doing and the wonderful work he has done for the District. President Fowler thanked Trinette Marquis for all her hard work in getting the information together for selecting a name for the district. She requested that the District enlist our arts classes in the north area school districts to submit a logo for Twin Rivers Unified School District.

#### Closed Session

President Fowler announced that the Board would be going into Closed Session regarding a conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Number of potential cases: 2; Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9 and conference with Labor Negotiators Employee Organizations - Classified and Certificated Employees - Government Code 54957.6. President Fowler gave the members of the public an opportunity to address the Board concerning this item. No one came forward.

The meeting was recessed at 9:40 p.m. and convened into Closed Session at p.m.

#### Open Session

The meeting was reconvened in Open Session at 11:01 p.m. President Fowler stated that the Board took no action in Closed Session.

#### Adjourn

Trustee Westrup moved, seconded by Trustee Bastian, to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, President Fowler adjourned the meeting at 11:03 p.m.