

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting  
of the  
**BRENTWOOD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Board of Trustees  
August 24, 2011

0. **Closed Session**, 6:00pm, District Service Center, 255 Guthrie Lane, Brentwood, California.
  - 0.1 Conference with Employee Negotiator
  - 0.2 Expulsion of Student #98429
  
1. The **open session meeting** of the Brentwood Union School District Board of Trustees was called to order by Mrs. Benz at 7:07pm at the District Service Center, 255 Guthrie Lane, Brentwood, California.
  
2. **ROLL CALL**  
Present: Mrs. Tobi Benz, President; Mrs. Lori Strauss, Clerk Mr. Emil Geddes; Mrs. Heather Partida; and Mr. Carlos Sanabria.  
Absent: None  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Melissa Rosnack, teacher at Marsh Creek Elementary.
  
3. **AGENDA REVIEW**  
It was noted that the agenda had been revised to include item 6.5, a copy of the revised agenda was made available for all board and audience members.
  
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE//SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF COMMENTS**
  - Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Superintendent welcomed Janna Stonebarger and invited her to share information related to the district Run for Fun'ds. Janna noted that the event was scheduled for 9.17.11 and they currently had 168 registered participants. The goal is to return over \$1000 to each site again this year. It was noted that additional sponsorships would be credited to the student's school site. Janna invited everyone to come out and enjoy the festivities including a pancake breakfast being provided by Rotary.
  - Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Superintendent noted that the Rachel's Challenge assemblies sponsored by the BUSD Education Foundation have taken place and that there was good community participation in these events. In addition, Paula King wrote a very nice article in the Contra Costa Times related to these activities.
  - Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Superintendent reminded the Board that the Teacher of the Year dinner is scheduled for September 15, 2011. Any board member who would like to attend should contact Gayle Crockett.
  - Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Superintendent invited Michael Bowen to comment on the district wide CLT meeting with district math teachers related to 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra. Over 300 teachers met to discuss the skills necessary at different grade levels in order to prepare students to be successful in 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra. Teachers received outlines of the benchmarks for each grade level. Lori Strauss asked staff to make parents aware of the training taking place in this area.
  - Michael Bowen, Director of Curriculum & Instruction noted that the Barnes & Noble Book Fair was scheduled for Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 3-9pm.
  - Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Superintendent noted that the following meetings were scheduled over the next couple of weeks:
    - Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am – Parent Leader Meeting
    - Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – Inter Agency Meeting (Geddes/Strauss)
    - Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> – Transportation
  - Phyllis Thivierge, Coordinator of Food Services provided the Board with an update on the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program being piloted at Marsh Creek Elementary and Edna Hill Middle Schools. This program provides free fruits and vegetables to students as an incentive to promote healthy eating habits.
  
5. **Public Comment**
  - 5.0 None
  
6. **CONSENT ITEMS**
  - 6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the meetings on August 10, 2011
  - 6.1 Approval of Interdistrict Transfers
  - 6.2 Approval of Board Policy, Board Bylaw, Exhibit & Administrative Regulation. Board Policy, Board Bylaw, Exhibit and Administrative Regulation numbers:  
AR 3513.1 Cellular Phones; Including Reimbursement
  - 6.3 Approval of overnight field trip request for Susana Melgoza's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class to Sutter's Fort in Sacramento on April 17, 2012.
  - 6.4 Approval of 2011-12 Operations Application for K-3 Class Size Reduction Program.
  - 6.5 Approval of contract with Contra Costa County Mental Health Services for January 2011 to June 2011.

Mr. Sanabria moved, seconded by Mrs. Strauss to approve items 6.0-6.5 as presented. The roll call vote was: Benz, aye; Geddes, aye; Partida, aye; Sanabria, aye; and Strauss, aye.
  
7. **HEARINGS AND APPEALS**
  - 7.0 None
  
8. **PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS**
  - 8.0 Mrs. Benz announced that there was nothing to report from closed session

- 8.1 Mr. Geddes moved, seconded by Mrs. Partida to accept the recommendation of the administrative hearing panel recommendation in the matter of the expulsion of student #98429 from the Brentwood Union School District. The roll call vote was: Benz, aye; Geddes, aye; Partida, aye; Sanabria, aye; and Strauss, aye.
- 8.2 Mrs. Strauss moved, seconded by Mr. Geddes to approve the personnel report as presented by Margaret Kruse, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. Certificated New Hires: None. Classified New Hires: Amber Pfeifer, ASES Aide; Kristine Land, EE Child Care; Andrea Levi, Instructional Aide. Resignations/Retirements: Trisha Cowling, ISP Aide. Requests for Unpaid Leave of Absence: Lynne Moor, Food Service Assistant. Requests for Job Share Assignments: None. Other: Approval of Derrick Bullington, teacher at AMS as the new Energy Education Specialist effective 8/25/11. Information only: Allexandra Torres has been selected to serve as the Interim Vice Principal at Adams Middle School effective 9/6/11-12/31/11. The roll call vote was: Benz, aye; Geddes, aye; Partida, aye; Sanabria, aye and Strauss, aye.
- 8.3 Mrs. Partida moved, seconded by Mr. Sanabria to approve Resolution #2011-15, a resolution authorizing teacher assignments in departmentalized classes as allowed in Ed. Code 44258.2, 44258.3 and 44256(b). The roll call vote was: Benz, aye; Geddes, aye; Partida, aye; Sanabria, aye and Strauss, aye.
- 8.4 Merrill M. Grant, Superintendent presented the board with information related to the Organizational Chart Comparison Data for Similar Sized Elementary School Districts. This confirms that our district continues to be conservative in its administrative staffing levels. This information was provided to the board as information only as this data was shared by another district who conducted a survey of similar sized districts.
- 8.5 Staff provided the board with additional information related to the cost of opening Mary Casey Black Elementary. In addition, the board was provided with current data related to classroom and student capacity within the district. It was decided that the board would revisit this topic at their September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**9. Announcement**

Announcement— The next regular Board Meeting – **Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 6:00pm**

**10. Adjournment**

Mrs. Benz adjourned the meeting to continue the closed session discussion at 8:10pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk