

REEF-SUNSET UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2018
DISTRICT STAFF/BOARD DEVELOPMENT ROOM

A regular meeting of the Reef-Sunset Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on this date in the District Staff/Board Development Room located at 205 N. Park Ave., Avenal, CA 93204.

Mr. Jimenez, Board President called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Board convened to closed session. The meeting was reconvened to open session at 6:02 p.m. Mr. Jimenez led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Enrique Jimenez, President

Claudia Cazares, Clerk

Chris Collins

Lupe Chavez

Lilia Rizo(*arrived at 6:00pm*)

Ivette Pulido, Student Board Member

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACTIONS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2018:

Motion by Chavez seconded by Cazares to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION:

Tamarack Elementary School Principal, Mr. Guzman recognized TES student, Isahak Shufar Saleh with a certificate and balloons from the board for improved behavior and attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tammy Ware, CSEA President stated that classified staff attending the meeting were there to be noticed, they all mattered. Kathleen Stanley, RSUSD staff recognized the unity painting on the board room wall and stated that unified, classified staff stand for something. RSMS Parent, Julissa Pulido expressed concerns with teachers having to make copies of old social studies books. She stated that Paramount donates a lot of money to RSUSD and asked the whereabouts of those funds.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Developer Fee Justification Study: Dr. East briefly explained that the developer fees were going to be raised according to the current justification study. Hearing opened for comment at 6:12 pm. No further comments, public hearing closed at 6:12 pm.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Student Representatives: KCES and AHS student representatives, Brenda Pulido, Carla Andrade and Emily Gamino reported on current and upcoming school activities.
- B. Mr. Horn – California Dashboard Local Indicators: Reported that the state required districts to report on local indicators 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7. He explained what each priority was in detail and stated that the indicators rate the progress and standards of local agencies. Mr. Horn clarified that the middle school should be using a social studies book from the 2005 adoption. However, they will be adopting a new social studies book in the Spring.
- C. CSEA/WKCTA Representatives: Tammy Ware, CSEA President thanked the teachers who attended the meeting in support of classified staff. Mrs. Ware reported that her union asked the district for fair health benefits and instead they went into impasse. She explained that 48% of classified staff have health benefits. Benefit costs have increased but not their salary. She reported

that the district's solution for them, was to give up salary increases to increase the cap for the other classified staff. However, Mrs. Ware stated that they have a bus driver position that can't get filled due to the large sum people have to pay for health benefits. She stated that classified staff were the heart of this school district and felt they do not get fair pay. Susie Chambers, CSEA Labor Representative gave a report of the negotiations. She stated it was unfortunate that they quickly went to impasse. They expected respect and they feel they are unappreciated. Fair compensation is what they want. Amy Wilkinson, CTA President thanked all those who attended to show their support. She stated that CTA stands in solidarity with CSEA. She stated that people who feel valued and appreciated will always go above and beyond their expectations.

STAFF/BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Board Members- Ivonne Pulido thanked everyone who attended the meeting. She stated that she enjoyed AHS Career Day. Mrs. Rizo gave a report on the WHCD fall festival. Mr. Chavez welcomed everyone present and reported he was coaching AHS Basketball. He also attended AHS Career Day where he was a keynote speaker. Mr. Collins reported he was concerned with AHS infrastructure. Wished everyone Happy Holidays. Ms. Cazares reported she attended the AHS assembly where keynote speaker Tony Hoffman inspired everyone. She stated that the district supports mental health services. Finally, she reported she attended a community health fair and KCES family literacy night. Mr. Jimenez stated he wished board meetings always had a large attendance. He announced this was going to be his last official board meeting. He stated he was proud of being part of building the AHS stadium and bringing mental health services to the district. He reported on all the positives at RSUSD.
- B. Mr. Horn- Reported that the district administration holds two ELD and Math rounds every month. Finally, he reported on that parent teacher conferences for TK-5 grades would be held this week.
- C. Dr. East- Reported that the district had an emergency repair needed at AHS. PG&E employees were at the site re-energizing the system when they discovered gas lines were not holding pressure. Students have been eating cold food and have had no heating system. The district had to replace a major portion of the gas delivery system and worked with a local underground contractor and engineer to provide the needed repair. Dr. East commended both RSMS and AHS for their career days. He also congratulated Randy Edwards for his appointment as Judge for the Kings County Superior Court. Dr. East reported on the CVELI visit. Districts from throughout the valley visited Avenal schools to hear about our work in dual enrollment, middle school intervention and enrichment. He also reported that he participated in the President's Commission on Industry to discuss the benefits of dual enrollment programs for high schools at Fresno City College. Avenal High has become a statewide success story for transforming schools through dual enrollment opportunities. Fresno Unified is looking to replicate our model in their early and middle college programs. Dr. East reported that AHS was also exploring the LOTE certification process for students. Lastly, the district will postpone the study session for the student health center and to review architect plans for the AHS bond project. Finally, Dr. East reported that the KCES Ribbon cutting ceremony would be held Nov. 27 and that he would be attending the CSBA conference, Nov. 28 - Dec. 1.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Minutes of October 18, 2018
- B. Warrants
- C. Personnel Report
- D. Interdistrict Transfer Request
- E. Request to Approve the 2018-19 School Safety Plans

Motion by Chavez seconded by Cazares to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Resolution 2018: 15, Developer Fee Justification Study:

Motion by Collins seconded by Cazares to approve Resolution 2018: 15, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

B. Request to Award the Bid Contract to JT2 Inc. DBA Todd Companies for the KCES Water & Irrigation System Modification Project:

Motion by Cazares seconded by Rizo to approve the bid award as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

C. Request to Approve the Agreement between RSUSD and Caves & Associates for Employer-Employee Relations Services:

Motion by Cazares seconded by Collins to approve the agreement as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

D. First Reading of New/Revised October 2018 Policies and Administrative Regulations:

Motion by Chavez seconded by Collins to approve the first reading as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jimenez – Yes, Cazares – Yes, Collins – Yes, Chavez – Yes, Rizo – Yes

Preferential Vote: Pulido - Yes

Motion Carried

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Ag Tech Program for AHS: Dr. East explained on the potential career pathway and additional

partnership with Wonderful Company and West Hills College to provide AHS students with an Ag mechanics emphasis certification with dual enrollment at West Hills College where students will receive one year of college credits and receive employment at the Wonderful Company post high school while completing their Associates Degree. He said West Hills College will be applying for a grant to implement the program and the Board may need to act in amending their agreement with West Hills College.

B. RSUSD AB139 Audit Report – Fraud, Misappropriation of Funds, and Other Illegal Fiscal Practices: Dr. East introduced KCOE Superintendent of Schools, Todd Barlow and KCOE Director of Business Services, Sara Smiguera as well as WHC Deputy Chancellor, Ken Stoppenbrink. Mr. Barlow reported on the role of KCOE as being the oversight for every district in Kings County. The KCOE business department's role is to make sure that every district in the county is not spending more money than they are receiving. Ms. Smiguera reported on the historical background on the investigation that was initiated by an anonymous tip stating CBO, Michelle Cutillo was stealing gift cards and cash from the district. KCOE sought the help of FCMAT and worked with the district's auditor, VTD to investigate the allegations. After investigating the allegations, it was found that Ms. Cutillo fabricated invoices for gift card purchases mailed to her personal address. They also found cash collection practices without adequate controls. KCOE provided a report under their oversight authority based on regulations from AB 139. Dr. East emphasized that the funds for the fraudulent activity were targeted from the ASES program. No other sources of funding were used for this activity. The district is audited several times a year according to state guidelines. The audience expressed concerns about the fraudulent activity and asked about prosecution. The district could not comment on the current status of Michelle Cutillo. The matter is a confidential personnel issue. The public also asked questions of the board and Dr. East and asked they take responsibility. The Board stated they immediately addressed the situation when they became aware of the allegations. The Board

encouraged the public to contact the District Attorney's office as they had shared the information with them for follow-up.

- C. Future Agenda Items: AHS Grant for Ag tech.

REPORTS:

- A. 2018-19 Annual Williams Report for RSUSD
- B. Enrollment Report
- C. Cafeteria Report
- D. SRO Report
- E. Suspension Report

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Secretary to the Board