

BOARD Notes

October 25, 2007

Board Meeting

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION DECISIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE BROWN ACT

Dr. Godley announced that the Board of Education appointed Cindi Judd to the position of Coordinator III, Assessment and Research.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr. Godley gave a summary report of the fire known as the **Santiago Fire** which broke out in the OUSD community Sunday combined with winds of 40 - 60 mph.

Initially, the Santiago Fire was on the edge of the Orange Unified School District and located primarily in the Tustin and Irvine School Districts. The fire eventually grew greatly in size and moved into the Modjeska Canyon and the Silverado Canyon areas. Approximately 23,000 acres have burned. The fire is diminishing and the main fire is currently burning from Silverado Canyon area in the direction towards Riverside County.

Silverado Elementary School has been closed this entire week. El Modena High School's gymnasium has been open as an American Red Cross shelter. There are approximately 65 displaced individuals at the shelter. Currently, there are twenty 5th and 6th grade Silverado Elementary School students in wilderness school who will be returning from Catalina Island on Friday afternoon. OUSD is working closely with the American Red Cross to ensure that all students and families will be re-united.

Karen Hanson, Health Services Coordinator, has been in daily contact with the Orange County Health Care Agency and school and district staff has been notified each morning via email as to the status of outdoor activity for that day. Beginning Tuesday, messages were also sent out each afternoon advising of the following day's directive of "no outdoor activity" until further notice. This assisted secondary schools in making decisions for zero and first period classes.

Health office staff was instructed to monitor all students for possible weather-related health problems. These include difficulty breathing, nausea, and headache. Parents were to be notified immediately if children complained of illness.

Thursday morning, an email was sent to all employees and a PACE message was sent to all student families advising that all athletic events and extra curricular activities, both indoor and outdoor were cancelled through the weekend. The message is also on the District website, was sent out through the OUSD listserv, and sent to all parent group presidents via email.

Information sheets regarding safety and health tips during the fires were e-mailed as well. These information sheets may also be obtained on the website.

The damage to District buildings has been relatively minor. Other than tree and fence damage, the only significant damage was the loss of a Quonset Hut at Silverado Elementary, which as of yet is unverified because the area is still closed; the loss of a parking lot pole at Canyon High and the temporary lunch shelter at Jordan Elementary. The wind caused power outages at the Crescents, Nohl Ranch and Esplanade Elementary Schools. Power has been restored to all schools and reprogramming of HVAC equipment is ongoing.

Maintenance personnel are working overtime to clean up the downed trees, broken branches, brush and debris caused by the winds. The high school pools are closed until the winds and smoke subside so chemicals can rebalance the water and the filters and pumps can keep up with normal cleaning.

Dr. Godley also shared the California Business for Education Excellence Foundation and Just for the Kids California is recognizing schools throughout California for outstanding success in raising student academic achievement. Schools receiving this distinction from California's business community have demonstrated consistent high student academic achievement and have made significant progress toward closing achievement gaps among all their students. Schools recognized from Orange Unified are: Chapman Hills Elementary, Nohl Canyon Elementary, and Panorama Elementary.

Board President Nichols acknowledged District staff, particularly the CWA department, commended the Superintendent's office for fielding an enormous amount of phones calls from concerned parents and all principals for maintaining peace and calm during this trying week due to the fires.

Mr. Poutsma congratulated teachers, secretaries and custodians as well.

The Board of Education recognized **Jola Wrzesien**, Accounting Technician II, Fiscal Services, as recipient of the Outstanding Customer Service Award for October. **Martha Landry**, Office Manager, Crescent Elementary, **and Debbie Hewitt**, Office Manager, Crescent Elementary, also October recipients, will be recognized in November as they could not be here due to situations with the fires.

Eddie Acevedo, Richland High School SACBE representative, presented the State of the School Report for Richland High School. Eddie expanded upon the highlights of student participation and events at Richland this year, including increased attendance.

The Board of Education approved the October 11, 2007 regular meeting minutes.

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board of Education held a public hearing on the sufficiency of textbooks, instructional materials and science lab equipment. The Board adopted Resolution No. 09-07-08, and certified that the District has complied with the requirement of Education Code Section 60119(c) and 60422(b).
- The Board of Education approved the recommendations as defined in the Board agenda, and approved Board Policy 6142.6, Visual and Performing Arts Instruction.

INFORMATION ITEMS

♦ There were no items.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Board of Education took the following action:

- approved purchase orders list;
- approved warrants list;
- approved gifts;
- approved contract services business services;
- approved Resolution No. 10-07-08 adopting an Amended and Restated Trust Agreement for Retirement Health Benefits;
- rejected liability claim no. 07/08-006;
- approved personnel report;
- approved student teacher assignments/agreements;
- approved teacher assignment/consent provisional internship permit;
- approved contract services educational services:
- approved study trips;
- received the report of uniform complaints as mandated by the Williams Case Settlement;
- certified that the District has complied with the requirement of Education Code Section 60422(a) and California Code of Regulation, Title 5, Section 9531(a);
- approved the courses for the Orange Adult Education program;
- authorized the Superintendent or designee to enter into an agreement with the California Department of Education and authorized the designated personnel to sign contract documents for fiscal year 2007-08;
- authorized the Superintendent or designee to approve the No Child Left Behind Supplemental Educational Services contracts with state/district-approved service providers;
- authorized placement of textbooks on display for 30-day review period to be considered for adoption at the December 6th Board meeting;
- authorized the Superintendent or designee to declare textbooks as listed in the agenda as obsolete/surplus materials, and enter into an agreement to facilitate disposition;
- approved contract services pupil services;
- authorized the District to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding between the Orange County Superintendent of Schools and the Orange Unified School District;
- authorized non-public school/agency placement for the student identification numbers as listed in the Board agenda;
- motion failed to approve Resolution No. 08-07-08 authorizing payment to John Ortega at the regular rate of compensation for the September 27, and October 11, 2007 Board meetings while Mr. Ortega was absent due to job-related responsibilities.

NEXT REGULAR MEETINGS – 7:30 PM

November 15, 2007 December 6, 2007

Board of Education

Kimberlee Nichols, President ● Wes Poutsma, Vice President ● John H. Ortega, Clerk Rick Ledesma, Member ● Kathryn A. Moffat, Member ● Steve Rocco, Member ● Melissa J. Smith, Member