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BOARD MEETING

ALPINE COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

5:30 PM, March 14, 2017

Administrative Services Annex, 43 Hawkside Drive, Markleeville, CA 96120

Teleconferencing/Videoconferencing

Perry Walther Building, 325 Creekside Drive, Bear Valley, CA 95223

**Attendance Taken at 5:40 PM:**

Present:

Rachael Brothers  
Clint Celio  
Geoff Ellis  
Jenny Goldstein  
Amy Mecak  
Dr. Scott Smith  
Dr. Patrick Traynor  
Cheri Warrrell  
Jessica Young

Absent:

Tony Holdridge

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Minutes:

Other Staff in attendance:

Joe Voss  
AnnaMaria Coletti  
Philip Marks  
Jackie Blaha  
Jennifer Quillici

**A. Agenda Approval**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Geoff Ellis and a second by Amy Mecak.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

**2. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

**A. Announcement of Items to be Discussed in Closed Session**

**B. Public Comment on Items to be Discussed in Closed Session**

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Minutes:  
There were no comments from the public on items to be discussed in closed session.

**C. Closed Session**

Minutes:  
The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m. into closed session.

- 1. Conference with Legal Counsel - One Anticipated Litigation Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9**
- 2. Public Employee Performance Evaluation per Government Code 54957**
  - a. Title: Certificated Employees**
- 3. Conference with Labor Negotiator per Government Code 54957.6**
  - a. Employee Organization: Alpine County Teachers Association**
  - b. Unrepresented Employees: ACUSD Classified Employees Organization**
- 4. Public Employee Employment per Government Code 54957**
  - a. Title: Classified Employees**
  - b. Title: Classified Senior Management**

**D. Open Session - Call to Order**

Minutes:  
The meeting was reconvened at 6:01 p.m. into open session. Mr. Celio announced that no action had been taken.

**E. Public Comment on Action Taken in Closed Session**

**3. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Minutes:  
There were no comments from the public present.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Board Appreciation Award Determination**

Minutes:  
Mr. Celio announced a recipient was not selected for the Board Appreciation Award.

**5. STAFF/DEPARTMENT/BOARD REPORTS**

Minutes:  
As a member of the Strategic Planning Subcommittee, Mrs. Brothers reported that she and Mrs. Mecak have been working on content for the April Board Workshop and reviewing Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) survey results. She advised that the survey results will be combined with the parent forum held in January and recommended that a draft of the LCAP be presented in a neutral forum with a moderator for public input prior to the public hearing.

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Mrs. Brothers expressed her desire to get feedback from the entire Board when setting priorities for the budget. She recommended having a separate meeting and a more streamlined process. Mrs. Mecak suggested a budget work study and information session.

Mrs. Brothers also mentioned mandates for posting resources to the District website according to the Safe Schools and Safe Learning Act of 2013.

**A. SSDA Design to Align for Success Conference (10 minutes)**

Minutes:  
Dr. Patrick Traynor, Superintendent, reported to the Board that the SSDA conference was very productive and he attended meetings on negotiations, the Brown Act and board meetings, and met an animation vendor. He thanked Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Mecak for attending. Mr. Ellis thanked Mrs. Mecak and Dr. Traynor for attending and offered to speak in detail with anyone interested in the workshops he attended. He also offered to provide the workshop Power Point presentations. Mrs. Mecak reported that she attended workshops on local bond debt reporting requirements for SB 1029, facilities bond 51, CalPERS and CalSTRS reform, and the Top 10 Tips for Construction Projects. She offered to share the information from the workshops.

**B. California Schools Dashboard Results (5 minutes)**

Minutes:  
Dr. Traynor reported that as of that evening, the results were still embargoed but he said he previously shared the CAASPP results and trends earlier in the school year. He said the results had been shared with certificated staff and board members, but not yet presented publicly. He said, as shared earlier in the school year, the State assessment results showed improvement in English Language Arts (ELA) with (Diamond Valley Elementary School) students performing high relative to the state average, a little lower in Math but overall a schoolwide improvement in Math, with some of the subgroups declining in Math. He anticipated sharing the results at the next board meeting as they will be released publicly the day after the March board meeting.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion Passed:** Items E, F, and G were pulled from the Consent Agenda for individual discussion. The Consent Agenda was approved for items A, B, C, D, and H. Passed with a motion by Amy Mecak and a second by Rachael Brothers.

- Yes Rachael Brothers
- Yes Clint Celio
- Yes Geoff Ellis
- Absent Tony Holdridge
- Yes Amy Mecak

Minutes:  
Items E, F, and G were pulled from the Consent Agenda for individual discussion. The Consent Agenda was approved for items A, B, C, D, and H.

**A. Consent Agenda Approval**

**B. Regular Board Meeting minutes of February 14, 2017**

**C. Monthly Warrants**

**D. Approve Lynn Schaefer's request for reimbursement for items dated beyond the 60 days reimbursement period**

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**E. Accept resignation of Classified Employee**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Rachael Brothers and a second by Geoff Ellis.

- Yes Rachael Brothers
- Yes Clint Celio
- Yes Geoff Ellis
- Absent Tony Holdridge
- Yes Amy Mecak

Minutes:

Mrs. Brothers was interested in receiving an exit interview (from Ms. Young) due to an issue with retaining Business Managers. Mr. Celio recommended the Superintendent and two Board members complete the interview. Mr. Joe Voss, Teacher, questioned the challenges of the Business Manager position causing the position turnover and would like to know why employees were leaving the position. He mentioned other companies have an independent agency conduct exit interviews and Mrs. Brothers mentioned it would require to be agendized. Mr. Celio suggested a more formal process in the future.

**F. Approve monthly Board meeting technical support \$200.00 stipend**

Minutes:

Dr. Traynor explained that the stipend was for technical support to set up Board meeting conferencing. Mr. Celio expressed concern about paying one employee a stipend to support the Board meetings when other staff members also attend the meetings.

Item 6. F was not acted upon.

**G. Approve monthly Board meeting facilitator \$75.00 stipend to properly post ACUSD and ACOE Board meeting agendas and make arrangements to provide public access for ACUSD and ACOE Board meeting teleconferencing from remote locations**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Geoff Ellis and a second by Amy Mecak.

- Yes Rachael Brothers
- Yes Clint Celio
- Yes Geoff Ellis
- Absent Tony Holdridge
- Yes Amy Mecak

Minutes:

Mr. Celio explained the stipend was to pay an individual to post notices and facilitate the public's attendance of Board meetings in Bear Valley. Mrs. Wegenstein, Bear Valley community member, mentioned a stipend had been paid to a former employee to facilitate the meetings and the stipend would provide an incentive.

**H. Ratify 1-year Planned Preventive Maintenance Service Agreement with Climate Control, Inc. for air conditioning and heating system preventive maintenance and emergency service effective April 1, 2017**

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Diamond Digest, Issue 7 March 2017**

**B. Governor's May Revision Workshop Information**

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

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Minutes:

Dr. Patrick Traynor, Superintendent, in light of the full agenda with Bear Valley, reported to the Board that they were looking forward to presenting the Dashboard results at the next meeting.

**B. Principal's Report**

Minutes:

Dr. Scott Smith, Principal/Director of Student Services, reported to the Board that approximately one third of the (Diamond Valley Elementary School) families attended the Parent Participation Night and two nights were planned for next year. He received positive feedback from parents and recognized staff's preparation and participation in the event. He announced that on April 10 the Diamond Valley Elementary School would be holding a Title I Parent Involvement Policy meeting to consolidate community and local and school organization feedback on the Parent Involvement Policy and student-teacher-parent compact. Mrs. Mecak stated that the Parent Participation Night was excellent and recognized the good turnout and variety of activities offered during the event. Mrs. Jackie Blaha, Teacher, commented on the impact one of the speakers had on the students.

**C. Business Manager's Report**

Minutes:

Ms. Jessica Young, Business Manager, reported to the Board that data was not ready to upload into the new software program for preparation of the second interim reports. She anticipated the data to be uploaded this week and preparing the reports within the next two weeks. She stated she would notify the (California) Department of Education of the delay. Ms. Young expected the report to be presented to the Board during the next meeting.

Mr. Celio referred back to Consent Agenda 6. E. and requested the Budget Committee members participate in the exit interview.

**9. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Unfinished Business**

**1. Discussion and/or direction/action regarding reopening the Bear Valley Elementary School**

**Motion Passed:** Motion made to commit \$35,000.00 to repair the Bear Valley School building. Passed with a motion by Rachael Brothers and a second by Geoff Ellis.

Yes	Rachael Brothers
Yes	Clint Celio
Yes	Geoff Ellis
Absent	Tony Holdridge
Yes	Amy Mecak

Minutes:

Mr. Celio reiterated the Bear Valley community's desire to reopen the school. Dr. Traynor reviewed different courses of action for Board consideration of reopening the Bear Valley School. He presented an additional scenario of reopening the school as a TK-8 and stated the average District cost per student was \$20,000.

Mrs. Lauren Schimke, Bear Valley community member, stated the annual costs could be reduced and Ms. Young responded that the figures were conservative and could

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increase rather than decrease. Mr. Celio stated the costs range from \$200,000 to \$300,000 which includes operating costs, salaries, food, and supplies.

Mrs. Amber Watts stated her family is considering moving out of Bear Valley due to the school being closed and no young families to rebuild the town. Mrs. Jill Wegenstein spoke on increasing revenue to the District from community growth and increasing property values and taxes. Ms. Kai Hager expressed her desire for her students to attend school in Bear Valley citing current transportation challenges for younger students. Ms. Katie Krayk spoke on repairing and maintaining the school building, the need for a school for current and future students, supporting the Bear Valley kids, and working with First 5 and preschool. Ms. Melissa Doyle, former Bear Valley student and employee, stated the school is invaluable and recognizes how important it is for students to attend school with their friends. Mr. Jim Burton, Bear Valley business owner, supports opening the school, expressed his belief that the school was important for families with children to live in Bear Valley for property values, and is concerned about the safety of students being bussed out of Bear Valley. Mr. J.B. Greer stated there are a lot of kids in Bear Valley and it will kill the town not to reopen the school. Mr. Tom Inahousa, Director of Summer Education Adventure and Recreation, expressed having a school was critical to establish an educational base in Bear Valley, will enrich the community, enhance economic opportunity, and help the community grow. Ms. Kimi Johnson shared her difficulties in hiring employees due to the lack of a school in the community, the importance to the Bear Valley Parents Group regarding space for the preschool which would be more cohesive at the school site, and parents' concerns regarding transporting their students out of Bear Valley. She referenced multiple days her student was late to school due to road conditions and the distance of her student's school to the community.

Dr. Traynor reported that six Alpine County resident students were being bussed to Hazel Fischer Elementary School and Avery Middle School and approximately five Alpine County students and 3 Calaveras county students would potentially commit to attending Bear Valley School next year. Mr. Buck McLelland requested a report on funding the Bear Valley School and community support.

Mrs. Brothers recognized that the cost and need for equity required further discussion and felt Bear Valley should reconsider a charter school which would give the community more control over their school.

Upon request from Mrs. Mecak to make a recommendation, Dr. Traynor expressed the decision on reopening the Bear Valley School should be made in consideration of the Board goals and the District's vision and mission regarding student success and fiscal solvency. He said the current situation of transportation to Vallecito Schools is fulfilling the mission and vision of engagement and success, Board goal of fiscal solvency, and Board approved district goal of maintaining existing programs. He said the Board can be confident that the current situation is fulfilling the vision, mission, and goals. Dr. Traynor explained if we changed the situation in Bear Valley, the Board would need to consider readdressing the goals. He said unless the goals, mission, and vision were readdressed, he could not put forth a recommendation toward reopening the school under the current circumstances.

Mrs. Mecak expressed her feeling that the decision needed to be based on the safety and wellbeing of the younger students and the prosperity of the Bear Valley community. She also recognized the need for the school, Vallecito currently considering consolidating their schools, and maintaining the school building. Mr. Ellis agreed with Mrs. Mecak regarding maintaining the school building and recognized Bear Valley's needs for their students. He also stated a decision on the building condition needed to be made immediately. He did not want to make a decision on reopening the school without a full board and requested consideration of funding

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during the Board workshop. Mr. Celio expressed his concern about the lack of a cohesive fiscal plan and that a plan needed to be developed for the long run. Mrs. Brothers suggested a motion to fund repairing the building. Mrs. Mecak stated a work study needed to occur soon and a plan needed to be made for a decision. Mr. Celio also noted a recent flooding event affecting the Bear Valley School.

Mr. Celio questioned how to develop a plan to determine if the school will be reopened and Mrs. Young discussed considerations to develop a budget. Mrs. Schimke reiterated she had previously provided student enrollment and grade span information and the building should be repaired. Mrs. Wegenstein questioned why a decision could not be made and Mr. Celio responded he needed to know the cost to open the school and how to balance the budget. Mrs. Schimke stated the community does not support a charter school and should no longer be considered. Further discussion ensued regarding developing a budget and plan to consider reopening the school.

Mr. Celio and Mrs. Mecak agreed she would lead developing a plan with Dr. Traynor, District staff, and community members.

Motion made by Mrs. Brothers to commit \$35,000 for repairs to the Bear Valley School.

## **B. New Business**

### **1. Discuss and Review BP/AR 5144 Students Discipline**

Minutes:

Mrs. Brothers presented tools on behavior management and a sample matrix from another school using the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework and expressed a need for a discipline matrix. Dr. Smith advised that they had a matrix and developing a new one was not a short process which would need to be adapted in certain areas through a collaborative process.

Mr. Buck McLelland cited that administrators know a large percentage of parents and may know why student behaviors occur, there should be leniency in trusting them to help the students. Mrs. Danielle Knapp, parent, expressed her trust in the teachers and the need for them to be part of the decision of consequences. Mrs. Blaha spoke on staff and administrator responsibilities according to the matrix. She expressed her desire for more support from administration in drawing clear boundaries for their students and defined consequences on the matrix. Mrs. Blaha recognized Dr. Smith for his support with a particular incident. Mrs. Jennifer Quillici, Teacher, requested feedback to the teachers from the principal on disciplinary consequences.

Dr. Smith felt there could be potential disagreements among staff members, stated a meeting has already been scheduled regarding discipline, and there is a plan moving forward. Mr. Celio clarified the Board's responsibility was to implement the policy and know if the policy is working. Mr. Celio requested an update at the next meeting and Mrs. Brothers requested resources be posted online.

It was the consensus of the Board to hold the item over to the next meeting.

### **2. Review and approve first draft of the 2017-2018 School Calendars**

Minutes:

Mr. Joe Voss, Teacher, stated the staff was split and the proposed calendar would create a disjointed school year. He suggested some revisions to the calendar but staff was leaning towards the proposed calendar.

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It was the consensus of the Board to hold the item over to the next meeting.

**a. Diamond Valley Elementary School**

**b. Alpine County Secondary Community Day School**

**3. Approve the request to advertise and hire for the following positions for the 2016-2017 school year**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Amy Mecak and a second by Geoff Ellis.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

**a. Business Manager**

**b. Noon Aide - Temporary**

**c. Instructional Assistant – Temporary**

**4. Approve Reduced Workload Program**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Geoff Ellis and a second by Amy Mecak.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

**5. Review, discuss, and revise Board Bylaw 9323 Meeting Conduct and 9323.1 Order of Business**

**Motion Passed:** Motion to waive the second reading and approve Board Bylaw 9323 Meeting Conduct and 9323.1 Order of Business. Passed with a motion by Rachael Brothers and a second by Geoff Ellis.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

**6. Review and Discuss District Committees, Board Committees, Board Representatives, and Organization**

Minutes:

Mr. Celio requested the Board members review the policies. He expressed his concern that committees established by the Board could be subject to the Brown Act, or by appointing Board members to committees, those committees would also be subject to the Brown Act. Mrs. Mecak suggested discussing the policies during the Board workshop.



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**7. Approve the Individual District 2017-2018 Certificated Contract Renewals**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Amy Mecak and a second by Geoff Ellis.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

**8. Approve Resolution D 16-17-09: Resolution to Allow Board Members to be paid for Non-Attendance per EC 35120 for the March Board Meeting**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Geoff Ellis and a second by Rachael Brothers.

Yes Rachael Brothers  
Yes Clint Celio  
Yes Geoff Ellis  
Absent Tony Holdridge  
Yes Amy Mecak

Minutes:

Polled vote: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Holdridge)

**10. OTHER REPORTS**

**11. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Board Workshop: April 14, 2017 starting at 8:30 a.m., Administrative Annex**

**B. April Board Workshop Outline**

Minutes:

Mrs. Mecak discussed having a CSBA facilitator provide a governance training during the April Board Workshop. She stated she wanted to focus on the vision statement. It was the consensus of the Board to bring in the CSBA facilitator during the workshop.

**C. Distribution of Form 700, Statement of Economic Interests; due no later than March 31, 2017**

**D. CSBA Good Beginnings Workshop**

**12. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Minutes:

There were no comments from the public present.

**13. SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**14. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (Items not completed in previous Closed Session)**

**A. Announcement of Items to be Discussed in Closed Session**

**B. Public Comment on Items to be Discussed in Closed Session**

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There were no comments from the public present on the items to be discussed during closed session.

**C. Closed Session**

Minutes:  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. into closed session.

**1. Conference with Legal Counsel - One Anticipated Litigation Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9**

**2. Public Employee Performance Evaluation per Government code 54957**

**a. Certificated Employees**

**3. Conference with Labor Negotiator per Government Code 54957.6**

**a. Employee Organization: Alpine County Teachers Association**

**b. Unrepresented Employees: ACUSD Classified Employees Organization**

**4. Public Employee Employment per Government Code 54957**

**a. Title: Classified Employees**

**b. Title: Classified Senior Managment**

**D. Open Session - Call to Order**

Minutes:  
The meeting was convened at 9:21 into open session. Mr. Celio announced no action was taken.

**E. Public Comment on Action Taken in Closed Session**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Rachael Brothers and a second by Geoff Ellis.

- Yes Rachael Brothers
- Yes Clint Celio
- Yes Geoff Ellis
- Absent Tony Holdridge
- Yes Amy Mecak

Minutes:  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:



Patrick Traynor, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

Amy Mecak  
Clerk of the Board