

VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER/DISTRICT OFFICE
BOARD ROOM
1234 ARCADIA AVENUE
VISTA, CA 92084

Board Members Present

R. Elizabeth Jaka, President
Angela D. Chunka, Vice President
Carol Weise Herrera, Clerk
Rich Alderson, Member (absent)
Jim Gibson, Member (absent)

Staff Members Present

Dr. Devin Vodicka, Superintendent of Schools
Jeanie Luckey, Deputy Superintendent
Brett Killeen, Assistant Superintendent, Human Relations
Donna Caperton, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Raylene Veloz, Recording Secretary

**OPEN SESSION/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL
CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Jaka.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Member Chunka moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Herrera. All in favor unanimously passed.

**PRESENTATION BY COMMUNITY
MEMBERS**

None

4.A. Part II: Site Reports (Principals) Workshop for the Board

Dr. Vodicka shared a brief presentation on previous principal reports and the focus of this year's reports.

- **Background**
- **Board Feedback**
- **Dr. Vodicka's Recap**
- **My Experience**
- **Reminders for the Group**
- **Directions for Principals**
- **Directions for Board members**
- **Directions for C & I**
- **Final Thought**

The plan for the evening was to find a productive middle ground with interactive, loosely structured conversation using the carousel method.

Tables were set up with chairs. Each board member sat at a table with three or four principals and a C & I Team member. Each principal shared with the Board members for 20 minutes about their school site. After the allotted time principals moved to the next table with a different board member. Principals moved from table to table and shared information. Discussions and conversations ensued between the board and principals. Board members received information and heard about each school site. Process began at 6:30 p.m. and ended at 8:30 p.m. with a short break in between.

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8:30 p.m. Dr. Vodicka held a short debrief and received feedback from the Board on the process.

- ✓ **Member Chunka:** I loved getting to know the principals better. It was more personable. Loved the dialog and the free flowing information that is being shared.
- ✓ **Member Jaka:** There was a greater variety of information and lots of information being shared. A broader range of information shared.
- ✓ **Member Herrera:** This is exhilarating to hear. On October 10 the principals talked about their successes and struggles at their schools. We need to look at how we deal with literacy at our district. We need to continue to move forward. Our principals came up with wonderful ideas and strategies. It was exciting to hear so many good ideas. It's a matter of implementing and negotiating them. We are moving in a positive direction.

Dr. Vodicka shared tonight we heard more ideas being generated probably due to the extended time of each principal to share. The group sizes were a reasonable size and we heard multiple perspectives with more time. **Member Jaka** added principals would like to look at having this more often instead of once a year.

- ✓ **Principal Joann Jones** stated maybe we can come back in the spring to share how it went.

Dr. Vodicka shared further information and future meetings with principals. ***What is the themes or patterns the Board noticed tonight in their groups.***

- ✓ **Member Jaka** stated finding a good Tier II intervention for students.

Principal Catina Hancock shared her thoughts on what could be done. Discussions ensued. **Member Herrera** stated maybe a more individualized intervention for students. Lot more group reading. **Principal Rachel Schmidt** added looking at transitions up the grade level academically and behaviorally. **Anne Green, Director of C & I** shared she noticed there was more collaborating between schools and teachers. **Member Jaka** stated time is another issue.

Dr. Vodicka shared further information on expectations of students currently and the time constraints of a school day. He stated now we have a great opportunity in the future to create and innovate with technology. I am proud of the work our principals have accomplished and continue to do at their schools.

Member Jaka stated on behalf of the Board thank you for your time and coming to share your insights. We really appreciate it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Thursday, October 17, 2013.**

Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Clerk of the Board of Trustees