

**MINUTE RECORD OF: Madera Unified School District Board of Education**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON THE 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF March, 2009**

The Board of Education of the Madera Unified School District convened in a **Regular Board Meeting** in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom, 1902 Howard Road, Madera, California on **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**, at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Michael H. Westley, President  
Philip D. Janzen, Clerk

J. Gary Adams, Trustee  
Robert E. Garibay, Trustee  
Loraine Goodwin, Trustee  
Michael Salvador, Trustee  
Ray G. Seibert, Trustee

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Kirsten Hadjis, Madera High School Student Board Representative  
Michael Bravo, Madera South High School Student Board Representative

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John R. Stafford, Superintendent  
Teri Bradshaw, Director, Fiscal Services  
Jake Bragonier, Public Information Officer  
Kathleen Lopes, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services  
Kelly Porterfield, Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations  
Jerry Stehman, Director, Human Resources/Certificated  
Darren Sylvia, Chief Academic Officer K-12, Educational Services  
Fritz Ediger, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent  
and the Board of Trustees

Absent:

Robert Chavez, Chief Academic Officer, K-12, Educational Services

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John Aldrich, Teacher, Jack G. Desmond Middle School  
Sara Arthurs, Facilities Planning Analyst/Construction Project Coordinator  
Andy Beakes, Principal, Madera South High School  
Marty Bitter, Athletic Director, Madera South High School  
Carsten Christiansen, Principal, Alpha School  
Marisa DiMauro, Director, Categorical Programs  
Alma Jauregui-DeLuna, Principal, La Vina School

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Jennifer Gaviola, Director, Special Services  
Janet Grossnicklaus, Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  
Michael Lennemann, Principal, Jack G. Desmond Middle School  
Shane Riddle, Athletic Director, Madera High School  
Lupe Rodriguez, Director, Maintenance and Operations  
Patsy Rodriguez, Clerk, Child Nutrition  
Laura Toney, Teacher, Alpha School  
Omar Vaca, Classroom Aide, Preschool, Parkwood School  
Gene West, Teacher, Madera South High School

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Sue Thornton, MUTA President  
Alice Rios, CSEA President  
Carolyn Zaragosa, CSEA Vice-President  
Josie Zaragosa, CSEA Chief Job Steward

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Donald Holley, Citizen  
George Crafton, Interim Appointee, Personnel Commission

There were approximately 60 visitors/District employees in attendance.

**1. CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC MEETING –  
CLOSED SESSION IMMEDIATELY CONVENED**

President Seibert called the Public Session of the Board of Education to order at 5:34 p.m. and immediately adjourned to Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(a), 54957, 54957.1 and 54957.6 and Education Code Sections 35146, 44951, 48900, and 48918.

**2. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION/CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING –**  
**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, OPENING, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF  
VISITORS AND MEDIA**

President Westley adjourned the Closed Session at 6:50 p.m., and he reconvened the Regular Meeting by calling the Public Session to order at 7:00 p.m. President Westley welcomed the visitors and he asked Trustee Adams to lead the flag salute. President Westley asked Pastor Tim McGraw of Yosemite Christian Center to lead the invocation. President Westley explained the rules governing the Board meeting. The meeting was recorded on Tape No. 19–2008/09.

**4. CLOSED SESSION REPORTABLE ACTIONS  
(GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1)**

Superintendent Stafford announced there were not any reportable Closed Session actions.

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – MOTION NO. 119–2008/09**

President Westley stated that if the Board and/or Administration determined they wished to add to the Agenda under Miscellaneous Items, this would be the appropriate time. President Westley asked that we delete from the Staffing List, Agenda Item 8B1, Classified Employment, Richard Meras, Special Education Assistant to Physically Impaired. Pull for Separate Discussion Agenda Item 8B2 - Interim CSEA Appointee for Personnel Commission. Delete Agenda Item 10D - event has been moved to Courthouse Park, so they will not be using MLK Facilities.

**It was moved by Clerk/Trustee Janzen, seconded by Trustee Goodwin, and unanimously carried to adopt the revised Agenda.**

Ayes:	Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and President Westley
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

**6. STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Kirsten Hadjis, Madera High School Student Board Representative, gave an update of academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities occurring at MHS.

Michael Bravo, Madera South High School Student Board Representative, gave an update of academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities occurring at MSHS.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**7A. PUBLIC HEARING**

President Westley opened the meeting for visitors to speak on a subject not on the Board Agenda.

Donald Holley came to the podium to invite the Board to the McNally Park Rededication Ceremony & Jesse Owens Games Kickoff Celebration to be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at McNally Park. Mr. Holley asked the Board for support and said that this is the 22nd year of the Jesse Owens Games. He said that after the rededication of McNally Park there will be a kickoff for the Jesse Owens Games. The Jesse Owens games will be held on May 9, 2009. Mr. Holley thanked the Board for use of the facilities for our kids.

Omar Vaca, classroom aide at Parkwood School came to the Board to invite them to a Cinco de Mayo celebration at Cesar Chavez School on May 1, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

**7B. STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION**

➤ **Winter Spirit of Sport Awards**

Jake Bragonier, Public Information Officer introduced the Winter Spirit of Sport Awards in John Denno's absence. The following awards were given out:

**Students:**

Jack G. Desmond Middle School:  
Vanessa Davis and Eduardo Guzman

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School:  
Andre Wilkes and Jacqui Miller

Thomas Jefferson Middle School:  
Angelica Ortiz and Nick Gutierrez

Madera High School:  
Cuitlahuac Medina and Lexi Bates

Madera South High School:  
Myra Banuelos and Adam Magnusson

**Coaches:**

Jack G. Desmond Middle School:  
Joel Jimenez, Boys Soccer  
Quinn Cody, Girls Baksetball

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School  
Ralph Rodrigues, Boys Soccer  
Juan Blanco, Girls Soccer

Thomas Jefferson Middle School  
Art Galicia, Wrestling  
Ray Montagna, Girls Soccer

Madera High School:  
Chris Baca, Boys Soccer  
Jason Smith, Girls Basketball

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Madera South High School:  
Gene West, Girls Soccer  
Armando Mendez, Wrestling

**8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – MOTION NO. 120-2008/09, DOCUMENT NUMBERS 269-2008/09 THROUGH 279-2008/09 INCLUDING COMMERCIAL WARRANTS – EXHIBIT “A”; STAFFING CHANGES – EXHIBIT “B”;**

**It was moved by Clerk/Trustee Janzen, seconded by Trustee Garibay and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda.**

Ayes: Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and President Westley  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstained: None

**8A. ROUTINE BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS, ANNUAL RENEWAL OF PROGRAMS, BIDS, AGREEMENTS, NOTICES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND PROCLAMATIONS:**

**8A1. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2009**

**8A2. APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH SCHOOL FACILITY CONSULTANTS TO CONDUCT OUR REQUIRED DEVELOPER FEE SCHOOL FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS  
DOCUMENT NO. 269-2008/09**

**8A3. APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS:**

- DONATION OF \$17,000.00 FROM JBT FOODTECH TO BE USED FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MINI-GRANTS
- DONATION OF \$1,000.00 FROM JBT FOODTECH TO MADERA HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM TO BE USED FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO ROBOTICS
- DONATION OF \$100.00 FROM TRESA VARLAS TO MLK FOR THE MLK SCHOLARSHIP
- GRANT OF \$2,000.00 FROM THE DARIN CAMARENA HEALTH CENTER FOR THE MOK PEER HELPER PROGRAM
- DONATION OF \$410.00 FROM THE MADERA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL COUSELING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO FUND A SCHOLARSHIP FOR A GRADUATING SENIOR  
DOCUMENT NO. 270-2008/09

**8A4. APPROVAL OF THE 2008/2009 CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT  
DOCUMENT NO. 271-2008/09**

**8A5. APPROVAL FOR RENEWAL OF LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH CAREER CRUISING FOR MADERA HIGH SCHOOL, MADERA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL, JACK G. DESMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MIDDLE SCHOOL, THOMAS JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, FURMAN HIGH SCHOOL, MT. VISTA HIGH SCHOOL AND RIPPERDAN**

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**CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL DOCUMENT NO. 272-2008/09**

**8A6. APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KERRY SHARP TO PERFORM AN ASSEMBLY FOR MADERA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC CARD HOLDERS DOCUMENT NO. 273-2008/09**

**8A7. APPROVAL OF AMENDED INNOVATION AND ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION DELIVERY PROGRAM (DISTANCE LEARNING) APPLICATION FOR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR DOCUMENT NO. 274-2008/09**

**8A8. APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 GRANT APPLICATION FOR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT/ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY/SECTION S225/231 AND ENGLISH LITERACY/CIVICS EDUCATION DOCUMENT NO. 275-2008/09**

**8A9. APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE POSSIBLE EXPULSION OR READMISSION OF PUPILS AS THESE ARE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FORMS OF DOCUMENTATION:**

- **REPORT(S) OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING PANEL(S)**
- **EXPULSION STATUS REVIEW REPORT(S) BY THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE**
- **STIPULATED EXPULSION AGREEMENT(S)**

**THE GOVERNING BOARD IS ALSO REQUESTED TO ISSUE ORDERS CONSISTENT WITH THE ABOVE REFERENCED FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE POSSIBLE EXPULSION OR READMISSION OF PUPILS IN THE CASES OF THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS, HEREIN IDENTIFIED BY THEIR DISTRICT-ASSIGNED IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS: 401681, 5297, 5646, 503794, 7101, 965151, 7420, 985358, 11438, 503110, AND 201767 CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT NO. 276-2008/09**

**8A27. APPROVAL OF COMMERCIAL WARRANT LISTING DOCUMENT NO. 277-2008/09 EXHIBIT "A"**

**8B1. HUMAN RESOURCES ITEMS – STAFFING – EXHIBIT “B” - MOTION NO. 120–2008/09—DOCUMENTS NUMBERED 278-2008/09**

**DELETE RICHARD MERAS - SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT TO PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED FROM CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT STAFFING LIST**

**8B2. APPROVAL OF INTERIM CSEA APPOINTEE FOR PERSONNEL COMMISSION MOTION NO. 121-2008/09, DOCUMENT NO. 278-2008/09 PULLED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION**

**8C. FIELD TRIP/ EMPLOYEE CONFERENCE REQUESTS DOCUMENT NO. 279-2008/09**

Superintendent Stafford introduced Alma Jauregui-DeLuna who was in the audience. She is the new Coordinator for English Language Development. Ms. Jauregui-DeLuna thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

**AGENDA ITEM 8B2 DISCUSSED HERE:**

**8B2. APPROVAL OF INTERIM CSEA APPOINTEE FOR PERSONNEL  
COMMISSION MOTION NO. 121-2008/09, DOCUMENT NO. 278-2008/09**

**It was moved by Clerk/Trustee Janzen, seconded by Trustee Adams, and unanimously carried for approval of interim CSEA Appointee for Personnel Commission. George Crafton is the person named as interim CSEA Appointee for the Personnel Commission.**

Ayes: Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and President Westley  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstained: None

Jerry Stehman, Director, Human Resources and Labor Relations introduced George Crafton, interim CSEA Appointee for Personnel Commission.

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

**9A. NONE**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**10A. APPROVAL OF 2009-10 STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS  
AND RECOMMENDED FACILITY NEEDS  
MOTION NO. 122-2008/09, DOCUMENT NO. 280-2008/09**

Sara Arthurs, Facilities Planning Analyst/Construction Project Coordinator presented to the Board the District's student enrollment projections and facility needs for the 2009-10 school year and beyond. Based upon current projections, the District is making the following assumptions:

- Madera Unified will eclipse 20,000 students in 2013
- The enrollment projection for 2009-10 is 18,962
- A 14th (K-6) elementary school will be needed in 2013
- The average class size at elementary (K-6) schools in 2009-10 will be 756. This year (2008-09) it is 745.
- A third high school will be needed in 2020. That third high school will be located on the corner of Martin Street and Road 26. The purchase of that land was tied to the passing of Measure U in November 2006.
- No attendance area adjustments are necessary for the 2009-10 or 2010-11 school year.

According to Ms. Arthurs and Kelly Porterfield, Associate Superintendent of Business and Operations, as families move into and out of the area, enrollment projections will change. As a result, the facility needs forecast may also change.



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**It was moved by Trustee Salvador, seconded by Clerk/Trustee Janzen, and unanimously carried for approval of 2009/10 Student Enrollment Projections and Recommended Facility Needs.**

Ayes: Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and President Westley  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstained: None

**10B. APPROVAL OF THE ACADEMIC COACHING PLAN AND ACADEMIC COACHING POSITIONS FOR 2009-2010  
MOTION NO. 123-2008/09, DOCUMENT NO. 281-2008/09**

Kathleen Lopes, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services came to the podium and presented the Plan for District Academic Coaches for the 2009-2010 School Year. The District Academic Coaches Purpose is to support implementation of District training initiatives by explicit direct instruction, response to intervention and collaborative teaching. The goal is to improve classroom practices which will impact student learning. In the current year we have five academic coaches. For the school year 2009-2010 we would like to increase the number of District Coaches to work in teams of two with assigned schools. Elementary teams would support four schools, middle school teams would support content area teachers and the high school teams would support content area teachers. The Elementary District Academic Coaches would be divided up as follows: TJ feeder schools which are Adams, Lincoln, Madison, Parkwood and Washington would have 2 academic coaches. The country feeder schools which are Dixieland, Howard and LaVina would have 2 academic coaches. Desmond feeder schools which are Berenda, Monroe, Nishimoto and Pershing would have 2 academic coaches. MLK feeder schools which are Alpha, Chavez, Millview and Sierra Vista would each have 2 academic coaches. The middle school District Academic Coaches for Desmond, King, and Jefferson would have 3 academic coaches to service the three schools - 1 English Language Arts, 1 Mathematics, 1 English Language Development. The High School District Academic Coaches for Madera High School and Ripperdan High School would have 2.5 academic coaches - 1 English Language Arts, 1 Mathematics and .5 English Language Development. Madera South High School and Mt. Vista High School would have the same. Ms. Lopes presented the Academic Coaches budget plan, the school site options and the next steps which would be Board input, and Board approval of positions.

**It was moved by Trustee Seibert, seconded by Clerk/Trustee Janzen, and unanimously carried for approval of the Academic Coaching Plan and Academic Coaching Positions for 2009-2010.**

Ayes: Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and



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	President Westley
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

**10C. APPROVAL OF EXEMPTION STATUS PER EDUCATION CODE 45272 MOTION NO. 124-2008/09, DOCUMENT NO. 282-2008/09**

Jerry Stehman, Director of Human Resources/Labor Relations addressed the Board regarding this item. He said that the Education Code allows the Board to make some people exempt from the Merit Commission. The Education Code 45272(b) authorizes the Board of Education by vote to submit a number of positions which are also indicated in that Education Code to the Merit Commission for their approval to be exempt from the hiring practices that would normally be in place. And for example, the Executive Secretarial positions are the ones we're referring to, and how that would work is that we would declare an opening at one of the Executive Secretarial positions, we would then open an application process, there would be a number of people who would apply, most of the qualifications determined by the Superintendent and then overseen by the Merit System. The Merit Commission would then submit an unprioritized list of names to the Superintendent for his selection to process who he or she would like to hire. The list of those positions would be the Senior Administrative Assistant, Confidential to the Superintendent; the Administrative Assistant IV Confidential to the Associate Superintendent of Business and Operations and the Associate Superintendent of Educational Services and also the Administrative Assistant IV Confidential to the Office of the Director of Human Resources. Mr. Stehman said that we deem these positions to be confidential in nature dealing with negotiations and other personnel matters and that is why we are asking the Board to have a vote and approve this and then we can take these positions to the Merit Commission for their input. President Westley said that he thinks he understands what Mr. Stehman is saying, except he asked if this is a change as a result of the implementation of the Merit Commission. Mr. Stehman asked a change in what? President Westley responded, a change in how things are done now? Mr. Stehman responded yes sir. As you know, with the Merit Commission, the staff of the Commission, Mr. Perea and his staff, we will tell them here is what we would like to hire, they go out, run the advertisement, and the hiring. Currently, say if we were hiring a clerical person, they would administer an examination to all the people who submitted applications, then they would administer an oral interview and then if you were hiring them Mr. Westley, they would submit to you the top three rankings of all those people that they interviewed. President Westley asked, this applies to future openings in these positions, and Mr. Stehman responded yes, deeming that they are confidential, dealing with the nature of work that they do, we will ask the Merit Commission to grant them exempt status. They still have all the rights and privileges that the Merit System provides, it's just the selection and process is some what different.

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**It was moved by Trustee Salvador, seconded by Trustee Goodwin, and unanimously carried for approval of Exemption Status per Education Code 45272.**

Ayes: Trustees Adams, Garibay, Goodwin, Salvador, Seibert, Clerk Janzen, and President Westley  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstained: None

**10D. APPROVAL TO WAIVE FACILITY USE FEES FOR CESAR CHAVEZ DAY CELEBRATION TO BE HELD SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2009 AT MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA  
DELETED**

**THIS ITEM WAS DELETED -- EVENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO COURTHOUSE PARK.**

**11. INFORMATION/REPORTS**

**11A. STANDARDS REPORT**

Kathleen Lopes, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services addressed the Board and said that she was supposed to give you a report tonight on Graduation rates and how that's going. She said that Mr. Chavez is absent tonight, so she said they will bring that report to the Board at the next meeting. She informed them of the trip to Yuba City on Thursday, March 26, 2009, leaving District Office at 4:30 a.m. and invited the Board to join the group if they would like. She said that they have approximately 27 people going and the bus can accommodate 47 people, so there is room for additional people to attend. The group will be visiting the Yuba City High School which has put in the Kevin Clark strategies in their ELD program and it's turned them around. They have gotten out of Program Improvement as a result of what they have been doing with their English learners, so we're excited to go see that. We're taking our High School administrators, our Middle School Administrators and some District staff as well. Trustee Adams said to Ms. Lopes that he thinks it is interesting to note that while we are going there, they are coming here on Monday, March 30th to visit Washington School to see their programs. Ms. Lopes also reminded the Board of the Tri-Annual Review to be held tomorrow, March 25th at 1:30 p.m. in the Workshop.

**11B. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Kelly Porterfield, Associate Superintendent of Business and Operations said he had a brief update and he will be providing additional information at the next Board meeting. He said that we've completed the polling for the potential Parcel Tax and the preliminary numbers indicate that while we have 52.3% rough approval, unfortunately that is far below the requirement to pass a parcel tax. We need 66+ to pass that, so

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Doug Johnson will be providing that information to you. The questions I think are interesting and the confidence that the community shows in the community, the Board and the Education process. It also reveals a lot about what their concerns are right now, which isn't surprising either, primarily economical. Mr. Porterfield said the report will be forthcoming and we will present that to you probably at the next Board meeting. Mr. Porterfield then went on to report about the solar project. He said he wanted to give the Board a brief update on this project. He said that if you remember, we were in negotiations with Foton. He said that the negotiations did not go well both in the language and essentially in the format that they were proposing and during the point of negotiations the incentives went down as well. However, solar is not dead yet within the District. We are currently discussing an alternative to Foton with Chevron. They're the same group that put together the parking structure over at Fresno State and we're still discussing with them. They have put us in a pool, a grand program where instead of being a power provider agreement, it's actually more of a lease, a municipal lease where they actually provide some grants to bring up front money and to help fund that project. We're going to be discussing it with the San Joaquin Valley Business Development Group, they're the ones who essentially allocate those funds, stimulus money, we anticipate stimulus money will be a part of that and we are going to pursue that vigorously, obviously.

I'm the grim reaper and I'm always giving you great news - unemployment rate in Fresno County and Madera County is hovering right around 16%, some say a little bit more than that. State wide it's right around 10%. That just came out from the employment development department dated today, we're getting updated numbers on that. That will obviously have an affect on the revenues at the state. We will have to watch that closely and give the Board an update as we proceed. We're also working with, because the one part of the picture that we had not resolved yet was the categorical and the back filling on funds that are in the negative and potential areas where reductions may have to occur or where reductions may not have to occur. That incidentally is the category that Kathy was referring to, that wasn't general fund over here, just so you know that we are discussing and reviewing, she has a plan. So, we'll be presenting that plan to Cabinet and that plan will come to the Board at a later date with implementation. At that time when the Board takes that action and also any recommendation related to sweeping of prior year categoricals, I want to remind the Board we are not recommending that we sweep any Tier III categorical programs into the general fund. We're only talking about prior year categorical carryover so that our programs can stay intact. When that decision is made, that will be brought to the Board. The Board then will make that decision, or approve that decision, that then becomes the action that's required under statute and the current budget that was passed by the legislature. A resolution in and of itself is not required. That is the action that is required and we submit that to our local and state authorities.

Trustee Goodwin said that she is really happy. She said that she knows when Mr. Porterfield did the solar presentation, she said that she had some queasy feelings, and she spoke to someone about Chevron and what they had been doing and she got

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really good feedback so it will be great to see what they say.

Trustee Adams asked for an update on the MSHS pool project. Mr. Porterfield responded that the MSHS pool is under construction, the rebar is in. He said that we have had some rain so that held it up a little bit. Mr. Porterfield said that he has not been to any of those construction meetings, but Ms. Arthurs might have an update. Ms. Arthurs responded that she believes they are pouring concrete tomorrow, March 25th. Trustee Adams asked Lupe Rodriguez, Director of Maintenance and Operations if the architect ever got back to him concerning how we would get the trucks in. Mr. Rodriguez responded yes, and he thinks we'll all be happy with it. Mr. Porterfield said that they have yet to finalize that. They will be bringing someone from the Board along with them so they are on the right path. Mr. Seibert will be the Board member assigned to accompany them.

Superintendent Stafford said that this would be an appropriate time to let the Board and public know that tomorrow he will be handing a letter to the County Superintendent of Schools indicating our intentions to transport our Special Educations students beginning in 2010-2011. He said that we spend well over \$1 million dollars paid into SELPA to transport our own students five miles. The funding formula was created in 1990 and basically we have been subsidizing their transportation, so we have indicated our intent and Dr. Frazier is aware and understands and we'll be moving forward with that project. Mr. Porterfield said that the intent is the easy part, the actual implementation is going to be more of a challenge. He said that he will figure it out. The challenge is that it is always two years in arrears, so that there is always a bill that is due, so you would have one year that you would implement and also have to pay for the prior year. Cash flow is king he said.

**12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Trustee Goodwin said that she didn't know whether or not the Board had ever been informed about the grant that was obtained for vegetables and fruits. She said that we have obtained a grant for \$5,000.00 and it's going to go for snacks, vegetables and fruits that the theory is middle school and lower, elementary schools. Ms. Lopes said that it has already started. She said that it started last week and the children are really enjoying it. She said that Mrs. DeFina, Principal at Sierra Vista sent her a note saying how well it went. President Westley asked if it was for K-8 students, and does it go throughout the year? Ms. Lopes said that it's a snack during recess time and it's a healthy snack. Trustee Goodwin said that it is a renewable grant depending on how well we do, use the money for what it was intended for. She said that it is so convenient with the times, people having so much hardship at home feeding their kids, it's more of an incentive to get them to school to give them breakfast and now we're giving them healthy snacks. Initially they weren't supposed to take this stuff home, but now we have awarded it, they can actually take food home at the end of the day, so it won't be thrown in the garbage.

**13. MISCELLANEOUS**

President Westley said that he would like to comment on our Adult School which is currently going through WASC Accreditation, they're at the beginning of that and Trustee Garibay and I have been sitting in on the leadership committee. There was a meeting last week and it was pretty interesting, it's moving forward, but the concern is the budget. Our Adult School although it is secondary to our main District focus, really has a big impact on our community and our students' families because of the training and the education. He said that he was really impressed at the concern of all of the staff sitting around the table realizing that they're in some real trouble financially the way the budget is coming down and how they were trying to be creative and talk about fund raising and how they can actually create some kind of a fund raising event for the school to keep their programs going. They have a very emotional stake in what they do and I hope they succeed. But, I thought that it was appropriate to let everybody know that we have a great group at the Adult School and I'm hoping that they can succeed. There isn't a lot that we can do to help them from our budget standpoint.

**14. ADVANCED PLANNING**

President Westley made the following announcement:

**Next Regular Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Madera Unified School District Boardroom – 1902 Howard Road, Madera, CA. 93637**

**15. SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Trustee Seibert asked about the School Farm, completion and funding, completion of the projects that we have out there. The state allocates us money and then they took it back - the pasture fence, irrigation and putting the pasture in. He asked that there be some research done on that. If we go ahead and fund it, will we get paid back what they agreed to pay? He asked that staff take a look at it or the Board take a vote on it because that thing is just sitting there, the bid right now could be low, but I'm hoping that if we can get an okay from the state and sign off on that. We go ahead and pay for it, and they pay us back later. Mr. Porterfield said that he was going to be meeting with the Ag Advisory Committee tomorrow night and we'll be presenting information to them. Right now the fund that houses all of the bond and the debt that the state issues, that was frozen and ultimately affected all of those other projects, but not just schools, but also all infrastructure, CalTrans, everything up and down the state. Part of that money is starting to become unfrozen. The roll out, they plan on rolling the money out first on projects that have actually "let" contracts already, so those projects that were under construction that then were frozen, that will be first. They're still determining what will be second and third. Mr. Porterfield told Mr. Seibert that he believes ours will fall in one of those upper tier projects because we've already

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had approval, we're all ready to go out to bid. It is what's called "shovel ready", and so hopefully we will be one of those that will be chosen. Trustee Seibert said what he's asking for is to find out if we go ahead and go out to bid and we build it, will they give us the money since we've already got the work done? Mr. Porterfield said there are two questions actually. We can obviously go out, we can bid it, get the project started with our matching portion which typically that portion would help fund the projects for the first two or three or four months and then hopefully get the funding from the state. We've done that before, that's how we built both Pershing and Nishimoto. Trustee Seibert said then we get part of it done, or chunk it out. But if they'll guarantee that there's some money coming to back fill the money you spend. Mr. Porterfield said that's the challenge with the condition we're in now, it's different from when we did Pershing and Parkwood, the economy was booming and we knew that the money was in the coffers and it was flowing freely. Now the spigot has been shut off, so it would represent a risk on our part. However, I know what you're asking. Mr. Porterfield said that he would check with the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). Trustee Seibert said that maybe the Board wants to take that risk. Trustee Garibay asked what the cost of the project was. Mr. Porterfield responded that it's a little over, I think it would be about \$550,000.00. Trustee Seibert asked how much we're getting from the Ag Boosters. \$125,000.00 matched by another \$125,000.00, so that equals \$250,000.00, so half from the Ag Boosters, other half from the state.

Trustee Adams asked about the "injured" Child Nutrition truck. Mr. Porterfield responded that the status of the injured CN truck is "I think its dead". Trustee Adams asked if it had been replaced by an adopted truck. Mr. Porterfield responded, it has not and CN is making due with what they have. Food is being delivered and we are operating the best we can.

**16. ADJOURNMENT MOTION NO. 125-2008/09**

President Westley adjourned the Public Session at 9:10 p.m.

*Fritz Ediger*

Fritz Ediger, Senior Administrative Assistant  
to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees

Dated: March 24, 2009