

MARK TWAIN UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD MINUTES

Date: October 9, 2014

Location: Mark Twain Union Elementary School District
Copperopolis Elementary Multi-Purpose Room
217 School Street
Copperopolis, CA 95228

President Diane Bateman called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M.

Roll call was taken:

Present: Diane Bateman, Maggie Rollings, Timothy Randall, Gary McGeorge, Jennifer Eltringham

Absent: None

Announcement of Closed Session

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
Name of Agency Negotiator: Julia Tidball
Employee Organization: Angels-Copperopolis Educators
(G.C. 54957.6)
2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
Name of Agency Negotiator: Julia Tidball
Employee Organization: California School Employees Association,
Chapter #815 (G.C. 54957.6)
3. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
4. Personnel Assignment Order

Reconvene to Open Session

Board President Diane Bateman reported no action was taken in Closed Session for items 1, 2, and 3. The President reported there was a motion made by Gary McGeorge and seconded by Maggie Rollings to accept the personnel assignment order as presented.

1. Certificated position – Student Council Advisor at Mark Twain Elementary
2. Certificated position – Drama Advisor at Mark Twain Elementary
3. Certificated position – Drama Coach at Mark Twain Elementary
4. Classified position – Library Technician at Copperopolis
5. Classified position – Girls' Basketball Coach at Copperopolis
6. Classified position – Girls' Basketball Assistant Coach at Copperopolis

Motion was approved 5 / 0 / 0.

Comments:

Public: Cheri Kelly, Copperopolis parent, read a letter composed by three parents with children attending Copperopolis Elementary. The letter expressed concerns with the district's policy on head lice allowing students back in school with "nits" and would like the district to return to a "no nit" policy. Mrs. Kelly provided a news article whereas another school

district had returned to a “no nit” policy along with a petition signed by over 100 parents urging MTUESD return to a “no nit” policy.

Crystal Molina, Copperopolis parent, spoke about the combination classes at Copperopolis Elementary. Mrs. Molina expressed her concerns and frustration as her six year old child has to change classes several times a day. Mrs. Molina said her child has not been successful in school. He is stressed and does not want to attend school. She was told that the numbers don’t warrant bringing on another teacher. She stated her child is more than just a number and urged the Board to look at the needs of the kids.

Info. / Disc. Items:
Comments:

1. Board:

Jennifer Eltringham stated that the Board is “here for the kids”. Mrs. Eltringham wished all the candidates good luck with the upcoming election.

Timothy Randall had a great time volunteering at the Angels Camp Gold Run. His goal is to run in the event next year.

Maggie Rollings has helped kick off the Read Naturally program at Copperopolis Elementary.

Gary McGeorge wished all the candidates good luck. His term as a board member has been fun and rewarding.

Diane Bateman had to miss the Gold Run due to illness, but heard it was a great success.

2. Student Rep.

Jesse O’Byrd, Board Representative for Mark Twain Elementary Student Council, shared that the Student Council officers attended a leadership conference this week. The key note speaker was one of the original “Freedom Riders”. The students had various presentations that supported making good choices in life. The Student Council is currently prepping for their first dance on October 24, 2014. Also, the student council has purchased t-shirts for the officers and they plan to wear them every Friday.

Faith Robinson, Student Council President for Copperopolis announced the newly elected officers for the 2014-2015 school year. Faith invited all to attend the annual Steak & Shrimp Fest on October 18th, 2014. The Student Council is helping to organize the annual Halloween Carnival for October 30th and will help promote Red Ribbon Week along with the food drive that benefits our local food bank and families in the area.

3. School Site - Mark Twain Elementary: Kevin Triance, Principal, stated that Mark Twain’s student enrollment count is holding at 544. Mr. Triance thanked the Badger Boosters for all the time and effort it took to put the Angels Camp Gold Run together. This event brought in close to \$10,000. It was a great day.

School Site – Copperopolis Elementary: Karen Vail, Principal, thanked Mr. Triance and the 7th and 8th grade staff for scheduling a conference day at Copperopolis Elementary. This is greatly appreciated by the families in Copperopolis. Ms. Vail stated her student enrollment count is at 271. She thanked IGA for the upcoming Steak & Shrimp Fest which raised about \$8,000 last year for the Parents Club and invited all to come and join them this year on October 18th. A parent night is

scheduled for October 22nd where Ms. Vail and several teachers will talk about the math program, update parents on where the district is with the Common Core transition and help parents with homework strategies. Ms. Vail thanked Maggie Rollings with getting the Read Naturally program up and running at Copperopolis along with the many parent volunteers. Homework Club is up and running with our new credentialed teacher, Ms. McCracken for grades 4-6 and another Homework Club is staffed with volunteers.

4. **Certificated:** Wendy DeSimone, teacher, Vice-President of ACE (CTA), thanked the board members for their service to the district. It takes a team of board members, administrators, teachers, and parents to make the best choices for kids. Mrs. DeSimone invited the board to attend Copperopolis' next Student of the Month assembly to feel the joy of seeing the kids succeeding. The 7th and 8th grade staff is looking forward to continued collaboration with the administrators in help with their students with special needs. She thanked the 7th and 8th grade staff for scheduling a conference day at Copperopolis Elementary. As a parent herself this is greatly appreciated. Mrs. DeSimone talked about the four combination classes at Copperopolis. The teachers are determined to make the best of the situation, being flexible and creative. The students are moving from class to class thereby placing each student in the best learning environment. Materials have been slow in coming to support the combination classes, but the teachers are being flexible and creative. After looking at the current student counts, Mrs. DeSimone anticipates a need for another split or teacher at Copperopolis for the next school year. Smile Keepers were on site today with Mrs. DeSimone's class having 75% participation in the program. This is a great service to our community. A thank you was extended to the local fire department for participating the Fire Prevention Week.
5. **Classified:** No Classified Representative made a comment.
6. **Business:** Roy Blair, Director of Business Services asked the Board to consider the approval of the audit contracts. This would cover a 3-year plan. Mr. Blair would also like the board to consider approval of the Amended 2013/14 Form CEA. The amended numbers drops the penalties from \$67,000 to around \$22,000.
7. **Superintendent:** Julia Tidball appreciates all the time and effort that goes into parent/teacher conference week, both the teachers and the parents. Mrs. Tidball also thanked the 7th and 8th grade staff in scheduling a day at Copperopolis for conferences. This has made a difference with parent participation. Mrs. Tidball attended the State Assessment update last week in Sacramento. The state is on track with the online student assessment taken by our 3rd through 8th grade students. Last year the test was a field test and no results were given. This year we should receive the results online two to four weeks after the tests are completed. A drawback to this change in testing is that Mark Twain Elementary will be "frozen in status" as a Program Improvement school.
Mrs. Tidball is working on a Broad Band Improvement Grant. This grant would allow easier online access, increase speed and greatly support use of technology as an instructional tool.
Mrs. Tidball had an amazing time at the Angels Gold Run. This was a fundraiser but more importantly it was a community event. A thank you was extended to the Badger Boosters for a great event and she cannot wait for next year's event. She is also looking forward to attending the Steak and Shrimp Fest.
8. **Correspondence:** None

Consent Agenda Item Approval:

A motion was made by Gary McGeorge and seconded by Jenny Eltringham with amended minutes (add: budgeted and change the to that on page 10, line 2 of the board packet) to the Special Board meet on September 15, 2014, to approve Consent Agenda items.

Motion was approved 5 / 0 / 0.

1. Warrants.
2. Approval of Minutes for the September 11, 2014 Board meeting and September 15, 2014 Special Board meeting. (pgs.1-10)
3. Board to Consider Approval of 2014-15 thru 2016-17 Audit Contract with Goodell, Porter, Sanchez, & Bright, LLC (pgs. 11-22)
4. Equipment Surplus/Sell/Discard – Mark Twain Elementary (pg. 23)

Review and Action Items Approval:

1. Board to Consider Approval of District Goals 2014-2015 (pgs. 24-27)

A motion was made by Jenny Eltringham and seconded by Maggie Rollings to approve the District Goals 2014-2015

Motion was approved 5 / 0 / 0.

2. Board to Consider Approval of Amended 2013/14 Form CEA (pgs.28-29)

A motion was made by Gary McGeorge and seconded by Maggie Rollings to approve the Amended 2013/14 Form CEA.

Motion was approved 5 / 0 / 0.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:19 PM

Board President or Designee

11/13/2014
Date

Julia Tidball Superintendent

11/13/14
Date