

WCCUSD Community Budget Advisory Committee
Administration Building
March 27, 2008
Minutes

Attendance: Sheri Gamba, Eileen Thibault, Eduardo Martinez, Charles Cowens, Becky Tipp, Karen Pfeifer, Erwin Reeves, Charles Johnson, Karen Fenton, Robert Studdiford, Mike Wasilchin

1. Introductions

Mr. Cowens started the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

2. Review and approve agenda

The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made. There was no quorum to approve the agenda.

3. Review and approve minutes

The minutes for January 17, 2007 were reviewed and no changes made.

4. Report of Chair

Mr. Cowens talked about the EdSource Forum 2008 that will be held on April 18, 2008. Attending are Karen Pfeifer, Sheri Gamba and Mike Wasilchin.

5. Discuss/take action on filling vacancies and review applications

There is no new action on filling vacancies.

6. New changes needed for current year including proposal presented at 3/29/08 board meeting

Ms. Gamba stated that she will be attending a meeting on Friday, March 28, 2008, with colleagues to talk about new changes in the State Budget situation. Mr. Studdiford reported that he went with the PTA to Torlackson's office regarding education and the budget. He stated that there are some Republicans that need to be targeted regarding education and the budget. Ms. Gamba discussed the approach taken during the 2004 state cuts – the carryover of categoricals were given flexibility. This is a discussion during this round of state cuts as well. The new prop 39 regulations place an increased burden on school districts. Mr. Wasilchin reported that he heard there was a possibility of flat funding.

Ms. Gamba will get back to the committee regarding new charter school requirements. She said that normally, when a student leaves the district, the state gives a hold harmless for one year. That gives the district extra money and time to adjust. But when the

student leaves for a charter school, there is no adjustment made. The district receives less funding immediately. This is more harmful to a district that is in declining enrollment.

Mr. Cowens received an email from Ms. Mirabella, county school board member, talking about doing a resolution to take a stand on the crisis with the state budget. The CBAC will bring a resolution addressing the state budget at our next meeting in April.

Mr. Cowens will add charter school impact on the agenda for the next meeting.

7. Budget changes needed for current year including proposal presented at 3/19/08 board meeting

Ms. Gamba reviewed the powerpoint shared at the 3/19 board meeting. The group then asked various questions. In response, Ms. Gamba stated that she is requiring that all consultant contracts come through her office for review and approval. She explained about the clerical matrix that was presented at the board meeting. There have been no custodians cut yet. That is because the parcel tax still pays for some of the custodians. If the parcel tax is unsuccessful, there will need to be custodial cuts. The clerical matrix is not specific because the district wants to negotiate that item with Local 1.

Mr. Cowens stated that we should be proactive instead of reactive and to offset by increases in training and efficiency. Mr. Reeves asked what are the duties of an executive director? Ms. Gamba answered that the executive director supervises a high school family/feeder group. Mr. Cowens asked about the savings on not paying the state loan. Ms. Gamba answered it could be deferred for one year only, showing as a savings for next year's budget. Mr. Cowens asked if Ms. Gamba could show the percentage left after the cuts are made in a department. And what would happen if the unions don't negotiate with the district in a timely manner?

Ms. Gamba passed around some information about education funding. She told the committee that they can circulate these as they see a need. She will send the file to Mr. Cowens.

8. Parcel tax

The next meeting for the parcel tax is April 7, 2008, from 6 – 7:30, at the Local 1 office, with food provided. The next scheduled meeting after April is May 12, 2008, also at Local 1. November is a possible date to put the parcel tax on the ballot. No decisions have been made yet, according to Ms. Fenton.

9. Good of the Order

The next meeting will be at Alvarado Campus, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., on April 24, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.