



FONTANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent's Advisory Committee

November 29, 2005

Minutes

- 1) Welcome and Introductions/ *Bienvenida y Presentaciones*
Dr. Milligan, Superintendent

Dr. Milligan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Dr. Wayne Ruble and Kathy Binks, members of the Board of Education and Frank Scialdone, City of Fontana Councilman. Dr. Milligan asked principals to introduce new parent representatives from Date, Locust, Mango, Redwood Citrus, Shadow Hills, Grant, Birch, and Fontana Middle Schools.

- 2) Approve Minutes/*Aprobación del Acta* – Mrs. Julie Ramos
 - After the meeting go to the website for the minutes at www.fusd.net

Ms. Ramos asked everyone to read the minutes from the October 26, 2005 meeting.

Ms. Rodriguez, motioned to approve the October 26, 2005 minutes with changes to number 5, from North to Norton Air Force Base, and number 6 Alex Alvarez, from Principal at Live Oak to Poplar Elementary and Erica Avila to Erica Aviles.

Mr. Wubker, seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

- 3) Superintendent/*Superintendente* Charles D. Milligan, Ph.D.

Dr. Milligan introduced the Interim Chief of School Police, Joe McCann.

- 4) City of Fontana Councilman Frank Scialdone

Dr. Milligan introduced Councilman Frank Scialdone. Mr. Scialdone served on the Police Force for thirty-one and a half years, five years as Chief of the Fontana Police Department. He was appointed to the City Council after Josie Gonzalez was elected to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Scialdone was pleased to be here and talk with everyone. He said the city recognizes the traffic challenges around the schools that were designed as neighborhood schools in the 50's and 60's. He said the City is working with school police to enforce traffic safety for students. They appreciate the parents walking their children through the crosswalks. The City is applying for funds for sidewalks and gutters.

They are really excited about the Library Groundbreaking which took place last week and is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2007. It will have computer labs, after school programs for elementary school students and tutors.

The City provides a School Resource Officer to work with Middle School students to serve as role models and to provide intervention and mentoring along with the cooperation of the District. In recognition of its success this joint program received a national award a few years ago.

The City addresses issues and believes education is very important. The City and District have developed joint programs. The City and District have also been involved in design aspects of the schools.

The City and District are working aggressively to fight the increase of water rates in the city. Currently the rates are 45% higher than nine surrounding districts. The water company is now asking for a 24% increase. When the cost of utilities increase, the state does not provide extra funds to cover the additional fees.

The City has hired 22 new police officers. Unincorporated areas housing approximately 13,000 residents will become part of the City.

The Mayor is a champion of transportation issues. An overcrossing at Cypress Avenue will be built by the City. They are currently doing environmental studies and planning to redo other interchanges as well.

A new 45 acre park is being built. The Jessie Turner Center will become four times larger with an Olympic swimming pool that Kaiser and Summit High Schools can use.

5) Bond Referendum/*Referéndum de bono*

The Lou Edwards Group will help the District with a Bond Campaign should the Board approve proceeding with a Bond issue. They prepared a graph to demonstrate growth. Dr. Milligan asked parents to complete the surveys so they would know what areas parents feel are most important so that the district can prioritize projects to be funded. Right now the district has 15 fewer schools than other districts with the same number of students. The Bond Oversight Committee will ensure that the funds are spent as agreed.

6) Calendar Committee/*Comité de Calendario* – Yolanda Mendoza

Ms. Mendoza reviewed the proposed calendars. The Status Quo calendar, the Early Start Calendar and the Traditional Calendar. Ms. Mendoza explained the Status Quo Calendar was basically the same but changes with the holidays. The Early Start Calendar starts schools in August and dismisses in May. The Traditional Calendar starts schools the day after Labor Day. The parents were asked to vote for their preference and to sign their name and indicate their school.

Ms. Mendoza introduced the new principals; Juliana Dekal, Principal at Redwood Elementary and Ron Dillender, Principal at Cypress Elementary. She explained that parents from the Superintendent's Advisory Committee served on the interview panels as well as representatives from the Fontana Teachers' Association and the United Steel Workers of America.

A parent asked if students would finish finals before Christmas with the Early Start calendar. Mr. Andrus, Summit High School Principal said that the students would finish and teachers would score the tests after the break.

How would traffic change?

Traffic wouldn't be affected since the schools are in at the same time.

When would the calendar go into effect?

The calendar is for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years.

How will a change affect the Summer School Program?

Mr. Andrus, Summit High School Principal said the first year would be the hardest with only one week before Summer School. However the District could offer more classes.

Parent ballots were counted.

Fifteen parents voted for Status Quo.

Fifty-six parents voted for Early Start.

Twenty-two parents voted for Traditional.

The parents' recommendation is for the Superintendent to take their recommendation for the Early Start Calendar to the Board of Education on December 7, 2005.

Dr. Milligan explained that the Board of Education will make the decision on which calendar to approve based on information they receive from many departments and that decisions are based on the best interest of students.

7) Questions and Answers/*Preguntas y respuestas* – Dr. Milligan

If strangers are on campus how will the school know who belongs on campus if students don't wear school uniforms?

Uniforms are a site decision. There is a dress code for students and Dr. Milligan believes the issue should be addressed by the site principal since they know what is effective at their school and in their community.

Comment: There are many illiterate parents in the latino community. There should be a way for parents to learn how to help students.

Dr. Meagher stated that the Adult Education program had to turn away 650 parents because they didn't have the funding. The district is funded based on 1979 data by the state. Dr. Milligan stated that Mr. Meagher is raising the awareness of legislators. Fontana's increased population has increased the need to serve parents.

Comment: Parent's concerned about their child being behind three years and has waited too long for special testing.

Dr. Milligan stated that the district has to test within a prescribed number of days. Of the 42,000 students, if ten percent of the students are in Special Services programs that translate into over 4,000 IEP's each year.

8) Adjournment/*Clausura* – Mrs. Julie Ramos

Ms. Melissa Rodriguez, Oleander Elementary made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Alicia Gomez, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.