

Eye On The Board

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Board Highlights from Summer 2011

Reported by Mary Ellingwood

New Campus Security Officer Position Established

At the June 28th meeting of the SUHSD School Board, a new Campus Security Officer position was established. Former Associate Superintendent of Human Resources had recommended that the school board start a pilot program at only one site. The board decided to begin a pilot program for the campus security officer at NSHS since that site had a Lead Campus Supervisor who had recently retired.

After three months, the Board will hear an assessment by Steve Oliver, principal of NSHS, about how the new position is going. If the program continues, the Board will hear another report after six months of the pilot program. After that, the board may implement the position at regular status or discontinue the position.

Board Makes Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Teachers

At a summer SUHSD Board meeting, Mr. Hogan (former Associate Superintendent of Human Resources) stated that the district needed to make a formal declaration that there is a need for fully qualified teachers in the Salinas Union High School District. He stated that a formal declaration would enable the district to hire out-of-state teachers and teacher interns in order to fill vacant positions.

On a motion by Trustee Cann, seconded by Trustee Ramirez, a by a vote of 5-0 (Trustee Reavis and Trustee Tabera were absent), the Board approved the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Teachers.

Search for New Associate Superintendant Begins

This past June, the SUHSD School Board said their farewells to Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, Mr. Alejandro Hogan, wishing him well in his new position as Superintendent of South San Francisco School District.

Then, at the July 12th Board meeting, Diane Hendricks, Interim Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, presented a timeline for hiring the new Associate Superintendant of Human Resources. She said that the deadline for applications would be August 22, 2011 and that Superintendent Earhart would make his final recommendations to the Board by October 11th.

Scholarships for SUHSD Increase

At a summer board meeting in June, Mr. Vanoli (Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services), reported that students from the class of 2011 have received more than \$12,639,111 in scholarships and grants toward higher education. Mr. Vanoli stated that there was a 75% increase in scholarships and grants from the previous year. The district set a new goal of \$15 million for the graduating class of 2012.

Proposal for Off-Site Suspension Center

At the June 28th SUHSD School Board meeting, Mr. Vanoli (Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services) stated that an Alternative Education Subcommittee had grown out of a recommendation from the Student-Staff Safety Committee which was formed in order to improve safety at campuses around the district.

The Alternative Education subcommittee is recommending the implementation of an Off-Site Suspension Center (OSO). The OSO would provide an educational alternative for students who are suspended for fighting on campus. While suspended to the OSO, students would learn how to change their behavior before they return to campuses. The OSO would also help the district prevent loss of ADA which is lost when students are suspended for violations for which they cannot stay on campus.

Mr. Vanoli said that the district is looking at either the Salinas Education Center (SEC) or an office at the Monterey County Probation Department in Salinas as possible sites for the Off-Site Suspension Center.

Important Board Actions/Resolutions:

On a motion by Trustee Ramirez, seconded by Trustee Larison, and by a vote of 5-0 (Trustee Reavis and Trustee Tabera were absent), the Board approved the job description for the new Campus Security Officer position and implemented a pilot program at NSHS for review in three months (and six months if the program is continued).