



FUSD Highlights

BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 19, 2009

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Laura Abernathy-Mancha, President
Henry (Gus) Hawthorn, Clerk
Julie A. Ramos, Alternate Clerk
Kathleen (Kathy) Binks, Member
Barbara L. Chavez, Member

ADMINISTRATION

Cali L. Olsen-Binks
Superintendent

Richard A. Stedry, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent
Business Services

Oscar Dueñas
Interim Associate Superintendent
Instructional Services

Yolanda Mendoza
Associate Superintendent
Human Resources

Robert P. Ratcliffe
School Police Chief
School Police Services

BOARD MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 2, 2009
6 pm Regular Board Meeting
John D. Piazza Center

Wednesday, September 16, 2009
6 pm Regular Board Meeting
John D. Piazza Center

HOLIDAYS

Monday, September 7, 2009
Labor Day Holiday
All FUSD Schools & Office will be closed

Board Bullets

- The Board approved a fee of \$40 per class at Fontana Adult Education, with the exception of High School Diploma classes (which remain free).
 - The Board approved the project budget amount of \$49,687,464, bid phasing and advertising of bids for Citrus Continuation High School.
 - The Board approved a contract with Citizens Business Bank Arena to hold 2009-10 graduation ceremonies for A.B. Miller, Birch, Citrus, Fontana, Kaiser, and Summit High Schools for estimated costs of \$12,500, plus a "parking buyout" fee of \$8,330, per high school, for a total of \$124,950.
 - The Board adopted Resolution No. 09-52 in support of Assembly Bill 1569 which provides school children with more opportunities to meet the State's PE requirement via participation in interscholastic athletic programs, marching band, drill team and JROTC.
 - The Board adopted Resolution No. 09-53 in support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8 which would force the legislature to recognize the most basic tenets of open government by requiring them to post a public notice 72 hours in
- lation available to legislators and the public at least 24 hours in advance of any vote.
 - The position of Coordinator of Adult Education was created.
 - Assistant Principal Cindy Gleason will be moving from Fontana High School to A.B. Miller High School (8/10/09).
 - Kaiser High School Assistant Principals will be moving to Jurupa Hills High School: Roberto Santiago (1/1/10), Richard Valencia (7/1/10), and Maureen Vass (7/1/11).
 - Teacher Eric Groeber was promoted to Principal of Citrus Continuation High School.
 - Mark Chavez was hired as the new Assistant Director of Food Services.
 - Electronic Data Analyst Eric De La Torre was promoted to Database Administrator in Technology (8/20/09).



Mark Chavez



Eric Groeber

Good Things



ROP Teacher of the Year

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools recently honored FUSD's Betty Brooks as ROP Teacher of the Year. A Licensed Vocational Nurse, Ms. Brooks has been teaching CNA, Acute CNA, and Medical Terminology at Fontana High School since 2001. Said Ms. Brooks, "What I do with my students at Fontana High School is part of my abundance. I thoroughly enjoy it. And I am here tonight to accept this award on behalf of them."



Reading First Coaches Honored

Seven years ago, our District wrote and received a Reading First grant. At the time, we had no idea what we were getting into or just how successful this program would be. Said Oscar Dueñas, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, “It was really unclear what this grant was because this was when No Child Left Behind was coming into gear, things were happening, laws were being interpreted for the first time and all of a sudden we were being held accountable because we are receiving this money.” Things got off to a bumpy start when all the Reading First teachers had to attend a 5-day mandatory training in Los Angeles. Mr. Dueñas remembers, “I had to send half my staff to Los Angeles for 5 days which meant HR had to supply me with a ton of substitutes for a week and it was a battle. The teachers didn’t want to go and everyone went kicking and screaming.

Originally, we heard it wasn’t going to be much of a change, because we were already using Open Court curriculum.” But when they returned five days later, his teachers said, “Mr. Dueñas, we’ve been doing the curriculum wrong – for the last three years.” But out of those rocky beginnings came a program that really worked wonders. Continued Mr. Dueñas, “In this district, I can honestly say, that program really worked. Seven years later, we are seeing the results. Our coaches went through extensive training. Our coaches are probably some of the best reading teachers out there and the best coaches out there. Unfortunately for us, this federal funding ended – it was originally a 3 year program and it was extended for another 3 years but last year was the last year of the program. It helped us with the coaching model for our new teacher- on-assignment.” Superintendent Cali Olsen-Binks concurred, “I can’t tell you what an impact you’ve had. If you’ve ever questioned in your career whether you did good things for kids, question no more and let this be affirmation for you because the scores that we’ve been able to sustain and the growth that we’ve been able to continue to make is really about implementing the curriculum with fidelity . Thank you so much for giving so much!”

School Climate Survey

Chief Robert Ratcliffe presented information to the Board on the School Climate Survey which our School Police Department conducted at the end of last school year. Participation included FUSD’s four comprehensive high schools, two continuation schools and the School of Language Development. Of the 12,366 students enrolled at that time, 5240 were surveyed (approximately 42.3% of the entire FUSD high school population). Results of the survey were compared against State averages found in the California Department of 2007-08 student survey. While not everything in the report was good news, Superintendent Cali Olsen-Binks said, “In looking at this report, the thing that I am really confident about is the proactive level of our police department and the buy-in that we have with the City Police Department as well to help provide a safe learning environment for our students.” Chief Bob’s PowerPoint will be available on the district website.

FUSD Student gets Eagle Scout Honor

Cody Clark, a senior at Kaiser High School and son of past Board Member Larry Clark, recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor for a participant in the Boy Scouts of America. Cody’s Eagle Scout project took place at the Fontana Boys and Girls Club. His project was to improve the drainage at the entrance of the clubhouse and make an outdoor barbeque kitchen and entertainment area for the club.