

**MINUTES – CITY OF FRESNO AND BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING  
JULY 30, 2008**

**Fresno, California  
July 30, 2008**

The City of Fresno and Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held a special joint meeting at Yokomi Elementary School, 2323 E. McKenzie, Fresno, California 93701.

**Special Joint Meeting**

At a special joint meeting with the City of Fresno and the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on July 30, 2008, there were present Councilmembers Dages, Duncan, Perea, Acting President Sterling, and Council President Xiong, Mayor Autry, and City Manager Souza. *Councilmembers Calhoun and Caprioglio were absent.* Board Members Asadoorian, Davis, Johnson, Mills, Nunez, Ryan, and Board President Vang. Also present was Superintendent Hanson.

Council President Xiong convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. at Yokomi Elementary School with the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District and thanked everyone involved and especially Yokomi staff for all their work and effort in organizing and setting up the joint meeting for the purpose of the following presentations by staff members.

- Facilities/Joint Use Agreements
- After School Programs and Out-of-School Time Activities
- Safety Initiatives

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Council President Xiong led the pledge of allegiance.

**Opening Remarks were made by:**

- Mayor Autry
- Board President Vang
- Superintendent Hanson
- Council President Xiong

**Presentation – Facilities/Joint Use Agreements**

Executive Director LeBlanc of Facilities Management & Planning presented a PowerPoint on the District Facts, What is a Facilities Master Plan?, Objective of a District-wide Facilities Master Plan, FUSD Current Feeder Progression, Facilities Master Plan Process, Areas of Mutual Interest Being Reviewed/Assessed, Joint Use Agreements, and Joint Use of High School Athletic Facilities.

### **Presentation – Facilities/Joint Use Agreements – continued**

Comments and/or questions were made by Superintendent Hanson, Councilmember Dages, Duncan, Sterling, Mayor Autry, Board Members Mills, Davis, Nunez, Johnson, and Council President Xiong on the following topics:

- Current feeder progression
- Need for a west Fresno middle school
- Need to set goals and continue to work together
- Need to make a west Fresno middle school a priority
- Need to build strong neighborhoods and schools
- Number of elementary schools; and two agencies being tied together by demographics and growth
- Need to do more in the area of
  - Housing
  - education and jobs
  - need to invest in the west area
- District challenges and support for declining enrollments
- Support for the computer labs
- Need to make athletics a part of the strategy along with academics
- Timeline for the joint use agreements
- Concern with politics affecting progress being made and the focus on children being lost

*A copy of the PowerPoint is available in the Board of Education Office upon request.*

### **Presentation – After School Programs and Out-of-School Time Activities**

Administrator Resciniti of Curriculum and Instruction and Director Cooper of Parks, After School, Recreation and Community Services (PARCS) presented a PowerPoint on the program vision and description, FUSD; After School Education and Safety (ASES) and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), ASES/21<sup>st</sup> CCLC agreements with (PARKS, CSUF, Fresno Art Museum and Fresno County Office of Education). The PARCS programs included numerous photographs taken from various sites of the programs and activities that are offered.

Comments and/or questions were made by Members Asadoorian, Ryan, Mills, Davis, Nunez, Councilmembers Perea, Duncan, Dages, Sterling and Council President Xiong on the following topics:

- Need to work collaboratively to identify funding sources for programs
- Support/appreciation for the existing partnership
- Commendation to computer lab staff, financing assistance, suggestion to develop training for students to become public servants
- Need for safe places for kids to play
- Need a policy in place for making school fields accessible after hours and on weekends
- Request for information on reading scores

### **Presentation – After School Programs and Out-of-School Time Activities – continued**

- Need to look further into having programs that run later into the evening and weekends, support for partnering in educational opportunities/apprenticeship

*A copy of the PowerPoint is available in the Board of Education Office upon request.*

### **Presentation – Safety Initiatives**

Deputy Police Chief Foster and Associate Superintendent Tucker of School Support Services presented a PowerPoint on Safe & Civil Schools: Social Emotional Tiered System of Support, Cycle of Continuous Improvements, Planning for Action, Joint Strategies & Programs, Working Towards a Safer Community, Mayor’s Vision/Goal, Police Chief Statement, Enhanced Partnerships, After School Programs, Safety Initiatives (Mayor’s Gang Prevention Initiative/MGPI, Life Skills, Police Activities League/PAL), and Future Strategies.

Comments and/or questions were made by Councilmembers Perea, Duncan, Sterling, Board Members Asadoorian, Ryan, Mills, Nunez, Board President Vang and Council President Xiong on the following topics:

- Surveying principals and teachers about safety issues on campuses
- Partnering with the District on the needed services and campuses lacking infrastructure (curbs/sidewalks)
- Youth empowerment – status of the Junior City Council
- More officers on campuses and need to find a way to increase officers without charging the District.
- Identifying at-risk youth
- Sharing safety concerns with parents at community meetings
- Concern with children traveling to other schools
- Need to make the west Fresno middle school a priority
- Infrastructure needs at Addams Elementary and support for the Safe Routes to School program
- Support for a Junior Council, partnering with the City and County to utilize dollars in a better way to help the children
- Need to make a commitment to continue to work together
- Need for a joint meeting at least once a year and including the “right” people to solve problems. Thanked the police department and officers for services being provided
- Need to move forward with the recommendations of the Safety Commission Report to address the following:
  - attendance problems
  - children missing school when an adult cannot walk them through high crime areas/areas with child predators/molesters
  - the need for additional police officers on campuses
  - school traffic and congestion being a real safety issue in the mornings and afternoons
  - need to continue this dialog and include the Clovis and Sanger school districts

*A copy of the PowerPoint is available in the Board of Education Office upon request.*

**Unscheduled Oral Communication**

Terry Bradley, Clovis Unified School District Superintendent  
Commended Fresno Unified on the direction it has taken.

Chris Bremer, Parent of an Edison High School Student  
Addressed the need for a community aquatics center.

Cathy Caples, Volunteer Center of Fresno County  
Addressed the need of school programs and suggested engaging the volunteer community to help solve problems and address issues, and expressed concerns with the high cost of background checks conducted on volunteers.

Rosemarie Amaral, Fresno County Department of Health  
Supports the joint use of school sites.

Luis Santana, Executive Director of Reading & Beyond  
Supports the joint use of facilities and suggested engaging the community to supervise at school sites.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.**

With no further business to come before the joint bodies of the City of Fresno and the Board of Education at this time, Council President Xiong declared the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.



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MICHAEL E. HANSON, Secretary to the  
Board of Education