

# UPPER LAKE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD JANUARY 12, 2016

### MINUTES

#### I CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Upper Lake Unified School District Board of Education was called to order at 4:17 p.m. at Upper Lake Union High School, 675 Clover Valley Rd, Upper Lake CA 95485 by Board President Mel O'Meara. Board Members Keith Austin, Don Meri, Claudine Pedroncelli and Diane Plante were present. Also present was Brock Falkenberg, Lake County Superintendent of Schools

#### II PUBLIC INPUT ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

- Mary Ann Mathews, Upper Lake Union High School employee, expressed her support of Pat Iaccino as Superintendent of the new school district. She questioned why the Board would consider paying for outside leadership when a qualified candidate is available.
- Sara Sanchez, parent of four children in the local schools, expressed her concern with district decisions being made so quickly. She questioned why the district would consider hiring someone else when Mr. Iaccino is willing to do the work for no extra money.
- Ron Raetz, former school board member, urged the Board to make a decision on leadership and move on. He stated that the community needs more input, and the community is those we serve.
- Rich Swaney, Upper Lake Union High school board member, expressed his support of Mr. Iaccino as Superintendent.
- Gary Madison, teacher at Upper Lake High and president of the teacher's association, stated that although staff would support the Board's decision, he urged consideration of Mr. Iaccino's leadership of the new unified district.
- Mike Smith, teacher and coach, stated that Mr. Iaccino offered invaluable vision. He shared that the best choice would be to continue with this vision.
- Ralph Sanchez expressed his support of Mr. Iaccino as Superintendent.
- Gretchen Ferguson, district employee and parent, expressed support of Mr. Iaccino as a dedicated and amazing man.
- Angie Arroyo, vice chair of the Habematolel Pomo tribe, shared that it was an honor to see people come together for the meeting, regardless of the outcome. She asked if there was a reason why the Board was considering a consultant over the current superintendent.
- Wroehnyn Milks, a student speaking on behalf of the Associated Students, said the student government organization believed it in the best interest to appoint Mr. Iaccino as the new Superintendent.
- Jaliece Simons, parent and supporter of the Boosters Club, urged the Board to have Mr. Iaccino as the new Superintendent. She questioned why the Board would consider bringing someone else into the district.
- Teacher Anna Sabalone read a message from former student and Upper Lake High graduate Arthur Wilkie. Mr. Wilkie expressed his support of Mr. Iaccino.

- Charlene Norwood, teacher at the elementary school, wanted to clarify the options before the Board. She shared the process included hiring a consultant for temporary guidance in developing procedures of the new district.
- Erica Boomer, teacher at Upper Lake High, expressed her support of Mr. Iaccino and her concern over cost of hiring a consultant.
- Miranda Huntley urged the Board to hire Mr. Iaccino. If this was not an option, she suggested the Board look at hiring the former Lake County Superintendent of Schools.
- Becky Tobak, Upper Lake High teacher, voiced her support of Mr. Iaccino, citing his commitment to education and the community.

**III CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL Time: 4:5 p.m.**

**IV RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION Time: 6:11 p.m.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Keith Austin.

**Action Taken from Closed Session**

Board President O’Meara announced that it was decided as a Board to enter into discussion with Pat Iaccino as Interim Superintendent.

**V APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Meri, to approve the Agenda of the regular meeting of January 12, 2016.

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O’Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

**VI PUBLIC INPUT**

- Becky Jeffries, Chief Business Officer of Upper Lake Union Elementary District, suggested that the Board clarify the different job duties of the Superintendent and the consulting firm.
- Zachary Sneathen, student at Upper Lake High School, thanked the Board for their action and expressed his appreciation of Mr. Iaccino’s assistance.
- Gary Madison thanked the Board for their positive response. He stated that he looks forward to working with the Board in the future.
- Parent Michelle Villines expressed her concern over spending funds on legal services.

**VII APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. Plante, seconded by Ms. Pedroncelli, to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of December 22, 2015.

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O’Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

**VIII PROGRAM REPORTS**

**A. Report on Change - ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) to ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)**

April Leiferman, Assistant Superintendent at the Lake County Office of Education, provided information on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the new federal measure passed by Congress and signed into law in December. The ESSA replaces the No Child Left Behind Act.

## **IX ACTION & DISCUSSION**

### **A. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SOLUTIONS**

It was moved by Ms. Plante, seconded by Mr. Meri, to approve the Contract for Services with Education Leadership Solutions.

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O'Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

### **B. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES**

It was moved by Mr. Austin, seconded by Ms. Plante, to approve the Contract for Services with School & College Legal Services.

Mr. Austin moved to amend the motion to approve *120 hours of service*; Ms. Plante seconded the amended motion.

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O'Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

### **C. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (CSBA)**

It was moved by Ms. Plante, seconded by Mr. Meri, to approve the Contract for Services with California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O'Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

### **D. ESTABLISH DATE, TIME, LOCATION FOR BOARD WORKSHOP**

It was moved by Mr. O'Meara, seconded by Mr. Austin to schedule the Board Workshop for 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 16.

Following discussion, it was decided that three potential dates mutually agreed upon by the Board would be selected. Mr. Falkenberg would then reach out to other key participants to check their availability. The possible workshop dates selected were Thursday, January 21, at 5:00 p.m.; Thursday, January 28, at 5:00 p.m.; and Saturday, January 30, at 10:00 a.m.

The original motion was withdrawn.

### **E. DISCUSSION ITEM – LOCATION OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

Future meetings will continue to be held at the student center/library at the Upper Lake Union High School. It was suggested that the tables be re-arranged so that board members could better see and communicate with each other.

## **X COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- Mr. Falkenberg addressed the work sponsored by the Lake County Literacy Task Force. Through its *Lake County Reads* project, \$500 worth of quality books are purchased and read by community members to students in the local elementary schools. The Beta Sigma Phi Sorority has sponsored Lucerne Elementary School's program this year; and the Habematolel Tribe has sponsored Upper Lake Elementary School. The Task Force-sponsored *Imagination Library* program is

part of the Dolly Parton Foundation. This program promotes early literacy by providing new books each month to children age 0-5.

- A new training on the LCAP designed specifically for Board members will be offered on February 16 (not February 28 as originally announced).
- The Hero Project has announced its new challenge, the “Fearless Family Fun Challenge” emphasizing the importance of regular playtime.

#### **XI BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

- Ms. Plante thanked everyone for coming out for a fantastic meeting.
- Mr. O’Meara noted the presence of children on the elementary campus last Monday when school was not in session. He noted that as the district unifies, the importance of communication with parents when the school calendar changes.
- Mr. Austin announced the Upper Lake Elementary speech contest. Judging will take place on Thursday, January 14, with the Awards Ceremony on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m.
- Ms. Pedroncelli noted how uplifting it is to see parents and community members come to the Board meeting. She said this is an exciting and challenging time.

#### **XII FUTURE BUSINESS**

The next Regular Meeting of the Upper Lake Unified School District Board of Education will be held on January 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at Upper Lake Union High School, 675 Clover Valley Road, Upper Lake CA 95485.

#### **XIII ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Meri, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Upper Lake Unified School District Board of Education adjourned at 7:41p.m.

Aye Austin; Aye Meri; Aye O’Meara; Aye Pedroncelli; Aye Plante - Motion Carried 5-0

*Submitted by,*

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Secretary to the Board  
Upper Lake Unified School District