

**GLENN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Wednesday, September 17, 2008  
Glenn County Office of Education,  
311 South Villa Avenue, Willows**

**MINUTES**

The closed session meeting of the Glenn County Board of Education began at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 311 South Villa Avenue, Willows, the regular meeting began immediately after the closed session.

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER:**

Ray Gollnick called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

**2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Judy Holzapfel led the pledge of allegiance.

**3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Catherine Hanes made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jim Mason seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**4.0 COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:**

There were no comments from the audience.

**5.0 CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:20 p.m. and reconvened at 5:35 p.m. Ray Gollnick announced that the appeal had been approved.

**6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Julia Larson requested the minutes be clarified by adding "for temporary use at Hamilton Union Elementary School" to Item 11.0 Administrative Report. Jim Mason made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Catherine Hanes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**7.0 COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

There were no comments from the audience.

**8.0 COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

Jess Modesto thanked Ray Gollnick and Julia Larson for attending the planning meeting for Carl Perkins application at Thunderhill. The workshop went well and was well attended.

Byron Denton commented on the progress made with working together in the SELPA meetings.

Pat Mullinax asked what the procedures were for doing a background check on teachers. Merrilee explained the fingerprint consortium that GCOE was a part of.

**9.0 UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished/old business.

**10.0 NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. House Fellows Program – Shirley Diaz and Eric Korling, WHS**

Shirley Diaz introduced Eric Korling from Willows High School. Eric is a PLC history coach. He applied for and was awarded an opportunity to go to Washington D.C. He gave a PowerPoint presentation on directions social studies can go in Glenn County. He would like to help other schools get started with a program like this. The group thanked Eric for this forward looking project.

Ray Gollnick called for a break at 6:35 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 6:40 p.m.

**B. Glenn County Office of Education Organized Trainings – Merrilee Johnson**

Merrilee reported that last week there was a training on certificated evaluations for people who conduct performance reviews for teachers based on California standards. Another training that she is currently working on is to help Special Ed and Alternative Ed teachers become Highly Qualified Teachers. The Ventura COE was commissioned by CDE to train teachers. In August a teacher came from Ventura to teach trainers for HQT. The class is 70 hours, primarily on Saturdays.

### **11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

Superintendent Barrera attended the first SARB meeting of the year. Attendance is up in Glenn County schools and truancy is down because of the work done by the SARB board.

Tom Neely attended a SELPA meeting and has drafted a plan for SELPA that will go to a sub-committee then to the entire group.

He meets every two weeks with his Cabinet level staff to get an idea where GCOE is with programs.

### **12.0 BOARD MEMBER REPORT:**

Julia attended Hamilton High and Hamilton Elementary board meetings. She commended Merrilee with her assistance to HUES in their search for a superintendent. She attended the ROP dinner at Thunderhill with Ray and Verdabell and was impressed with Mr. Modesto and the work he has done on the ROP program. She introduced Gail Zimmerman who is running for her position in the Hamilton/Capay area.

Catherine Hanes reported that all four 2008 graduates from Elk Creek High School are currently attending college. She has also met with Mr. McIntosh several times.

Ray reported he had attended the ROP dinner and was impressed with the availability of volunteers in Glenn County to help young people find jobs. He also attended the SELPA meeting.

### **13.0 COMMUNICATIONS:**

Superintendent Barrera announced there would be a second community meeting at HUHS on September 23 to discuss the unification.

He has received several calls regarding a letter to the Chico ER editor written by Julia Larson and he wanted his response to be on record. The letter was regarding the settlement with Tim Crews and Paul Boylan. Julia denied that the Board had any part of the settlement. The Superintendent explained that the Board was apprised in closed session by the attorneys of every negotiation item that was going to be put forth. Linda did not recall voting on it at all. Her understanding was that Superintendent Barrera could negotiate the settlement by himself. Ray, Jim, and Catherine all remembered discussing this with attorneys and voting to go forward with the settlement.

Superintendent Barrera read a portion of a letter from Dino Valez, attorney from Miller, Brown, and Dannis. For the record, it was not negotiated by Superintendent Barrera, it was approved by the Board, they felt it was the best thing to do.

Superintendent Barrera read a fax from HUES written to the Hamilton Elementary School Board. It is a letter commending one of their employees. He felt it was great that Julia Larson wrote the letter, however it should not have been on GCOE letterhead

implying the Board and the Superintendent shared the same sentiment. Julia responded that as a representative for that district, her name is on the letterhead and she didn't sign as a board member. Linda Miller said this is "Get Julia Larson night like it was two meetings ago." She said that they did get figures from Dino of \$459,000. Linda continued, "We did settle this because Dino advised us it could cost us more money. With negotiations, it was taken down to \$100,000. We felt like we needed to get rid of this and go forward." She believes Superintendent Barrera had settled with Crews before he took office, before he was Superintendent. The Board felt it was for the good of GCOE that this got settled. Tim Crews stated that Valley Mirror did not get any of the money from the settlement, it went to the attorney. The lawsuit was against the Board and the former Superintendent for the illegal withholding of documents.

Julia submitted a letter from CSBA requesting payment of Education Legal Alliance dues.

Pat Mullinax asked what the correct process would be if she or Judy Holzapfel wanted to write a letter commending a teacher. Janna said this could be done on a Board member's personal letterhead or a Board member could agendaize a proposed letter for the Board to approve.

Linda Miller received a SARB report and commented that half the schools are no longer participating in SARB. Superintendent Barrera said that Willows and Orland were dissatisfied with how SARB was running and felt they weren't getting their money's worth. Truancy numbers are down because SARB is working. Lake and Plaza schools are not participating because they don't have a need for SARB.

Kathy Boyle appreciates that the Board has to make tough decisions. It is deceptive to say that members of the Board didn't have the authority to make that decision.

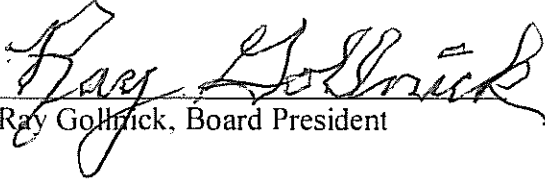
Ray encouraged everyone to put this behind them and move on.


**14.0 NEXT MEETING:                      Date/Time/Location**

**October 15, 2008                      5:15 p.m.                      Willows Administration**

**15.0 ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

  
Ray Gollnick, Board President

  
Arturo Barrera, Superintendent

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