

*Minutes of the SSEA Central Coordinating Committee Meeting  
Shasta Learning Center  
January 19, 2010  
3:30 P.M.*

In attendance:

Jim Cloney, Superintendent  
Art Schmitt, Chief Business Official  
Dana Reginato, Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources  
Kyle Turner, Assistant Superintendent/Instructional Services  
Jim Bartow, Principal (FHS)  
Elsbeth Prigmore, Principal (PHS & Plus Schools)

Guy Malain, Principal (Alt. Ed.)  
Sharon Adkins, SSEA (SHS)  
Patricia Pocinich, ESP (FHS)  
Sandy Guy, ESP (DO)  
Tom Roberts, SSEA (EHS)  
Marsette Ford (Recorder)

**Alternative Ed 2010-11**

Jim Cloney reported that Oasis Court and Community School is operating at a loss of approximately \$500,000 this year. Shasta County Superintendent of Schools Tom Armelino has discussed this situation at numerous meetings with all Shasta County superintendents, and various options to keep the program going have been considered. The majority of the high school students currently enrolled at Oasis belong to SUHSD and others are from Anderson and Central Valley. The proposed plan for 2010-11 is to operate three County-operated satellite classes, housing approximately 60 students, on the Pioneer HS campus. These classes will be taught by County employees so that funding will continue to be eligible at the "C" rate (funded at approximately \$10,000 per student in County alternative education programs, versus approximately \$6,250 per student in regular district-operated programs). The satellite classes will generate more revenue than their operating costs, which in turn will offset the loss of continuing the operation at Oasis for the remaining students. It is in the District's best interest to maintain the program at Oasis, and the satellite classes are the "best of the worst options."

Tom asked if there are plans to increase enrollment at Freedom Community Day School. Jim Cloney said no increase for Freedom is planned at this time, due to limited space. This may change in the future when RSA vacates SLC and more classroom space becomes available. He noted that the PHS campus has accommodated up to 200 students.

**Budget Update**

Art reported on information he obtained last week at a Governor's Budget conference. The Governor's plan to "protect education" is not offering much protection. Education represents approximately 40% of the State budget and education is absorbing approximately 25% of the costs. The Governor's plan is to fully fund a negative COLA, plus take approximately \$1.5 billion more from education. The combined reductions equate to an ongoing reduction of approximately \$259 per ada for SUHSD. Prior to this latest budget information, SUHSD needed to cut an additional \$2 million (on top of cuts already in place), and now that figure has increased to approximately \$3 million. The Governor's plan addresses a \$21 billion shortfall in the State budget, and is partially balanced on his hopes to receive \$7 billion in Federal funds as California's "fair share". If the State does not receive \$7 billion in Federal funds, the Governor's plan is to disseminate health and social services. Art does not believe the Legislature will allow dissemination of health and social services, and therefore education will likely have to endure more cuts. SUHSD was deficit funded last year and this year, and the total deficit amount is projected to be more than \$21 million by next year (equates to approximately \$7 million in reduced funding per year, or about 14% of the District's total budget). The only good news is that no mid-year cuts are projected for this year. California's economy is not expected to recover until 2015, at which time it will be comparable to the 2008 economy.

Art added that FCMAT projects the next round of bankrupt schools will occur within districts of 1,000 students or less, due to lack of cash reserves.

### **CTE Courses/New Courses Timeline**

Kyle announced he will be meeting with counselors this Friday to discuss CTE courses and timelines. Principals will be invited to attend. The plan is to make the transition as seamless as possible. Some timelines have been adjusted based upon circumstances and he appreciates the counselors' flexibility on this issue.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Kyle reported dual enrollment has been going well and no changes have been made from last year. District staff are teaching the courses, and all courses be completed within the regular school year schedule.

### **Professional Learning Community (PLC)**

Kyle has learned that teachers are interested in developing a PLC. A PLC will be available for teachers, which grew from the January staff development day. It will focus on reading and writing across content areas to allow teachers to work with one another and share strategies to improve student achievement. More information will be going out on this over the next few months.

### **CTEL Update**

Dana provided an update on SUHSD teachers enrolled in the CTEL course provided through Simpson University, and she appreciates the interest and support. As AUHSD has joined with SUHSD in this opportunity, Simpson may not be able to accommodate all who have applied at this time so she will be working with Simpson on the possibility of providing additional dates in the spring. Teachers need to notify her when they pass exam sections, as the University does not contact her. Those who have passed the exam may be available to assist others in preparing for it.

### **DataWise**

Tom stated that DataWise "doesn't work" and cited instances involving teachers from each of the comp sites having to hand grade the tests, as DataWise was incorrect.

Kyle noted that teachers review end-of-course and end-of-semester exams and administration review the STAR tests. He believes DataWise does work, as it consistently comes within one point of the API. Kyle noted that Sandy Guy in the District Office works closely with teachers who contact her with DataWise problems.

Sandy stated she has not found any situation to be the result of an error in DataWise. Problems reported to her have been related to not matching the test with the correct answer key or printing from a common printer. In all cases of teacher contacts, she has been able to solve the problems and it has not been the fault of DataWise. She remains willing to help teachers with any problems or concerns.

Tom feels DataWise has created a change in working conditions and continued use should be negotiated. He did not agree with Kyle's statement that there is not a change in working conditions if all the steps are followed correctly. Tom also suggested surveying the teachers on this matter.

Jim Cloney and Kyle recommended that specific teacher problems be communicated first to administration so that errors can be addressed individually and any problems can be accurately identified. A website Kyle is developing will have a page dedicated to DataWise so that teachers can have questions answered as they use the system. Kyle will contact Tom about gathering input regarding the DataWise system.

Kyle recommend that an individual teacher with specific user problems contact Sandy to set up a time when she can come to the site and address his/her question. Kyle stated that any problems experienced by a teacher need to be fixed as soon as possible, as the intent of DataWise is to make grading easier.

### **College Connection Bylaws**

Jim Cloney will discuss this topic with Shasta County superintendents at the next Chief School Administrators' meeting on January 21. In addition, he will address this at the College Connection Consortium meeting on February 2, and schedule follow up meetings with District staff.

**Textbook Retrieval Procedures**

Tom relayed a concern about delayed enrollment at NSIHS if a student has not turned in all books from his/her previous school. Kyle noted this topic was previously discussed via an email that addressed this issue last year. Registrars and counselors were told to disallow transfers until fees are paid, as previously our own registrars had to solve issues regarding fees instead of the families directly involved.

Tom stated some teachers feel the responsibility has been placed on them for retrieving books. Kyle stated each site is responsible, but each may have different procedures. Textbook retrieval processes have been discussed with department chairs, and other forms of textbook collection procedures are being explored.

**Spec. Ed. Graduation Requirements**

Tom asked if teachers can recommend a special ed student not receive his/her diploma if they don't participate or put forth any effort to pass the CAHSEE. He was informed that teachers may not make that recommendation, however they may grade the students according to their performance.

**Communication with Feeder School Superintendents**

Tom relayed a recent staff inservice at a local elementary district instructed its teachers not to discipline students with suspensions or referrals; they were to instead make students feel good about themselves. He believes this action results in 9<sup>th</sup> grade incoming students being unprepared for high school expectations.

Jim Cloney will follow up with Superintendents at the next Chief School Administrators' meeting. This presents a good opportunity to bring up articulation regarding classroom expectations at the high school level and what can be done to educate feeder schools on high school academics and work ethic.

**CTE**

Jim Cloney provided answers to a number of questions on the Career Tech Education topic. Funds previously going to the ROP will be infused in the District's budget and will therefore be the funding source for the CTE teachers. CTE teachers will be paid on the current salary schedule, and placement will be determined by their credential. The priority is to have as many of our current staff teaching as many courses as possible, however they must be qualified. (Example: we don't currently have any teachers qualified to teach Fire Fighting and Administration of Justice). A designated subjects credential is required for teaching voc ed. The expectation is that the CTE teachers would be required to join SSEA. For classes such as cosmetology, the District would contract with outside agencies as there is currently no other way to offer the course. This would be advertised and if a staff member is working toward getting qualified, they would be considered for the position. A list of qualifications is available through Human Resources at the District Office.

Dana noted that some current teachers hold specialized credentials that may allow them to teach CTE courses, which would result in hiring others to backfill vacated positions. CLAD certification for those with a designated subject credential may be required if they have CLAD students in their classes. This will be discussed with SSEA in the future.

Kyle has prioritized the CTE positions and is currently working on job descriptions. Those with the highest priority to fill will be advertised soon and others will follow.

Jim Cloney reported that CTE updates will be provided at every Board meeting throughout the remainder of the year. He commended Kyle and Mike O'Leary for their hard work on the CTE Program. This will be positive for students, staff and the budget.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

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Tom Roberts  
SSEA Representative

Date

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Jim Cloney  
Superintendent

Date