



Board Members Present: Dr. Rommel Bal, President; Ms. Sherry Alexander, Vice-President; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane, Clerk; Mrs. Victoria Lenderman; Mr. Joe Nava; Mr. Courtney Porter; and Mr. Jeff Stroh

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. David Horton, Associate Superintendent; Mrs. Erin Church, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; Mrs. April Juarez, Executive Director, Fiscal Services; and Mrs. Edith Holbert, Executive Director, Operations

Student Representatives: Ms. Katelyn Guana, Lodi High School; Ms. Katara Saetern, Senior Class President, McNair High School (subbing for Mr. Raphael Aseron)

Meeting Recorder: Mrs. Michelle Armstrong, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA, and broadcast on YouTube.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No comments were presented.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. Attendance was recorded, and Superintendent Young led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Bal reported the following action was taken in Closed Session:

Conference with Legal Counsel:

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve OAH 2024100972.

Student Matters:

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of new non-public school students numbers 78, 89, 93, and 131.

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve the placement of non-public school students changes numbers 72 and 107.

Recognitions

Proclamation and Recognition of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Week - February 10-14, 2025

Board Member Stroh presented Toni Dahlen, teacher at Tokay High School, with the 2025 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Week Proclamation.

Proclamation and Recognition of National School Counseling Week - February 3-7, 2025

Board Member Porter presented counselors Trang Morris and Sandi Warmerdam, with the 2025 National School Counseling Week Proclamation.

Comments from Student Representatives

Ms. Katelyn Guana, Lodi High School; Ms. Katara Saetern, Senior Class President, McNair High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Young announced that Lodi USD Teacher of the Year, Isaiah Stowers, was selected to compete for San Joaquin County Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Bal asked the two students who signed up to speak during Comments from the Public to speak now, instead of at the end of the meeting.

Fern Stahlschmidt & Layla Lew, Students, John Muir Elementary School, spoke about having the blacktop and water damage at the portables repaired.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

George Duenas, Teacher/Athletic Director, Lodi High, commented on Item A-12.

Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, commented on Item A-1 and A-16.

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), commented on Item A-1 and A-16.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Porter pulled Item A-1.

- Item A-2 Purchase Order Detail Report - October 2024, FY 24/25 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-3 Purchase Order Detail Report - November 2024, FY 24/25 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-4 Purchase Order Detail Report - December 2024, FY 24/25 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-5 Approval to File Form J-13A Request for Allowance of Attendance because of Emergency Conditions (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-6 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-7 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-8 Resolution 2025-07 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for Year 25 - E-RATE 470 Filings - Category 1 and Category 2 Services (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-9 Resolution 2025-09 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Parklane Elementary School Flooring 2025 - Project No. 0825-8425-280-24 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-10 Resolution 2025-13 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the North Stockton Kitchen HVAC Unit Installation, Project No. 7032-0000-895-32 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-11 Resolution 2025-14 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Plaza Robles High School Fencing Project No. 0946-8246-580-33 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-12 Resolution 2025-15 Rejection of All Bids for Lodi High School Ball Fields Project RFP No. 0800-5800-600-001 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-13 Resolution 2025-16 Authorization to Use Elementary School Pupil Grant Eligibility for Lodi High School (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-14 Resolution 2025-17 Authorization to Revise Bylaws for Measure U and Measure L (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-15 SJCOE Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements (Mr. Warren)

- Item A-16 Proposed Revisions to Board Policies: BP 4020 Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace; BP 4112.2 Certification; BP 4113 Assignment; BP 4115 Evaluation/Supervision; BP 4119.21 4219.21 4319.21 Professional Standards; BP 4136 4236 4336 Non-District Activities (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-17 Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 9, 2025 (Mr. Young)
- Item A-18 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2025 (Mr. Young)

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as amended.

Individual Action on Items Pulled from Consent Agenda A – Routine Business

Item A-1 Contracts List

Mr. Porter and Mrs. Lenderman voiced their concern about the amendment to the Kingsley Bogard LLP contract and would like staff to research paying legal representation a flat rate contract amount, instead of hourly.

President Bal requested Mrs. Juarez to send detailed invoices from Kingsley Bogard to Board for review.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item A-1 Contracts List, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Lenderman, Macfarlane, Nava, Stroh
Noes:	Porter
Abstain:	none
Absent:	none

Motion carried

Public Comments on Consent Agenda B

No comments were received for Consent Agenda B.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-5-13
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-6-14
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-9-15
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-4-16

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as presented.

Public Comments on Other Action Items

Comments on Item OAI-3:

Bill Yates, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary

Susan Heberle, Community Member

Ron Heberle, Community Member

Beth Oesterman, Teacher, Lodi High School

Kori Duenas, Teacher, Lodi High School

Rafael Ceja, Area 2 Director, translated Spanish for two Lodi High School students

Michelle Orgon, Teacher, Needham Elementary School
Kathleen Jay, Teacher, George Washington Elementary School
Michael Heberle, Teacher, Bear Creek High School
Sherri Carson, Teacher, Bear Creek High School
Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association
George Duenas, Teacher/Athletic Director, Lodi High
Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School
Keith Russell, Teacher, Lodi High School

Superintendent Young and Mrs. Church provided clarification that the seven-period day will not affect elementary schools' common planning days.

Other Action Items

Resolution 2025-11 Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees

Mrs. Church presented the hiring of short-term classified employees for Board review and approval.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Resolution 2025-11 Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees.

Item OAI-2 Resolution 2025-12 Authorizing the Lodi Unified School District to Make Application for and to Sign Certain Assurances with Respect to Applications for Local, State, and Federal Programs, Projects or Grants

Mrs. Holbert stated the resolution authorizes the district to move forward with additional grant opportunities for electric buses.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve Item OAI-2 Resolution 2025-12 Authorizing the Lodi Unified School District to Make Application for and to Sign Certain Assurances with Respect to Applications for Local, State, and Federal Programs, Projects or Grants.

Item OAI-3 Resolution 2025-18 Seven Period Day at Bear Creek, Tokay, and Lodi High Schools

Superintendent Young explained that a seven-period day would allow for a wider range of course options, including electives and career pathways; enable students to earn more credits each year; allow more students to achieve A-G requirements; allow students to engage in credit recovery during the school year; greater opportunity for interventions; increase graduation rates; and increase opportunities for early college classes and dual enrollment. He stated the district is committed to utilizing the current staffing formula to determine necessary increased staffing for this model. He stated that the model will be compliant with the collective bargaining agreement between the district and Lodi Education Association, including class size and length of the teacher day. Mr. Young stated teachers will teach five out of seven periods and will have two preparation periods per day. He commented that if another model was considered, it would have at least two periods for prep.

Superintendent Young stated if the resolution is approved, staff is looking forward to collaborating with teachers, site administrators, and the negotiations team, on the best schedule that considers the needs of the students. He confirmed that the resolution is only for Bear Creek, Tokay, and Lodi High schools, that it will have no effect on middle schools, and common planning time.

Mr. Nava, Mrs. Lenderman, and Mrs. Macfarlane, voiced concern about class sizes getting larger. Mr. Young stated the class sizes will not be impacted.

Mrs. Lenderman voiced concern with safety if all students are having lunch at the same time.

Student Representative Guana preferential vote was aye, and Ms. Saetern voted to abstain.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve Item OAI-3 Resolution 2025-18 Seven Period Day at Bear Creek, Tokay, and Lodi High Schools.

Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association: School Closure Due to State of Emergency

Mrs. Church presented the MOU for Board review and approval.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association: School Closure Due to State of Emergency.

Item OAI-5 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association

Mrs. Church presented the tentative agreement with LPPA for Board review and approval.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association.

Item OAI-6 Ratification of the Side Letter with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association: Additional Lead Counselor Stipend

Mrs. Church presented the side letter for LPPA for Board review and approval.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-6 Ratification of the Side Letter with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association: Additional Lead Counselor Stipend.

Public Comments on Reports

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), commented on the Communications Survey Results Report.

Rodrigo Contreras, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, commented on the College and Career Department Update Report.

Reports

College and Career Department Update

Dr. Horton gave an update on the plans for building a College and Career Department. He explained the plan would be to create a new area, Area 4 - College and Career; add an area director with support staff, two budget and program staff; college & career program coordinator; counselor on special assignment; and an AVID Coach.

Mr. Young stated the College and Career Department plan will come back for action to Board on February 18.

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Update

Mr. Lambert gave a brief summary going over current strengths, opportunity for growth, actions for supporting growth, and plans for moving forward. Rafael Ceja, Area 2 Director of Education, introduced staff who spoke about the positive outcomes from the LCAP initiatives in their respective departments and sites:

Uve Dahmen, Coordinator for Assessment, Research, & Evaluation
Mariella Cisneros, Attendance Advisor, Child Welfare & Attendance
Cesar Chavez, Attendance Advisor, Child Welfare & Attendance
Eba Martinez, Program Coordinator, Curriculum & Instruction
Patty Flores, Bilingual Paraeducator, Larson Elementary School
Jill Van Ness, Teacher, Curriculum & Instruction
Dean Blount, Psychologist
Phoua Vang, Psychologist
Erin Smith, Teacher, Curriculum & Instruction
Nicole Milligan, Curriculum & Instruction

Communications Survey Results

President Bal moved the report to the next meeting.

Board Member Advisory Reports

No reports were given.

Comments from the Public

Bill Yates, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary, spoke about a special education student who read for the first time.

Susan Heberle, Community Member, spoke about having adequate staffing at sites.

Ellen Sahli, Community Member, spoke about the ethnic studies curriculum.

Jamie Howen, Community Member, spoke about the ethnic studies curriculum.

Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, thanked Dr. Bal for allowing the students to speak earlier in the meeting and not cutting off the public comments on Other Action Items. She thanked everyone who participated in the Julia Morgan Read Across America event.

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, stated that she is grateful for the clarity on the seven-period day not affecting common planning at elementary schools. She commented on the status of LEA bargaining.

Rodrigo Contreras, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, stated his dislike of Comments from Employee Group Representatives being moved to the end of the agenda and how late the meeting ran.

Comments from Board Members

Dr. Bal spoke about how the Board will be holding Board business first, and then everything else. She spoke about having everyone work together, for the common goal - the children.

Mr. Porter spoke about Mr. Stroh and himself attending Trivia Night at Lodi High School.

Mr. Stroh spoke about teachers being pulled from classes for trainings.

Ms. Alexander thanked everyone who put together reports tonight and the students who spoke.

Mrs. Macfarlane was concerned that some comments from the evening felt like negotiations.

Mrs. Lenderman thanked staff at Julia Morgan Elementary School for inviting her to read in the classroom.

Dr. Bal allowed for one additional public comment:

Ron Heberle, Community Member, announced that NORCAL Science Festival and the GOT Kids Crab Feed will both be on February 22, 2025.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board