



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 3, 2021
Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Ron Freitas, President; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane, Vice President; Mr. Courtney Porter, Clerk; Mr. Ron Heberle; Mr. Joe Nava; Mr. Gary Knackstedt; and Mr. George Neely

Administrative Staff: Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer

Student Representatives: Grace Gremel, Bear Creek High School and Britany Yepez-Tafolla, Lodi High School, were present.

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 Educational Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA 95240 and broadcast on YouTube.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No public comments were received prior to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:01 p.m. and attendance was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Nava.

Closed Session

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

Closed Session Student Matters:

Mr. Nava motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the Settlement Agreement of OAH Case No. 2021050678.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Washer displayed photos from school sites on the first day of school and spoke briefly on the start of the new year.

Comments from Student Representatives

Grace Gremel, Bear Creek High School and Britany Yepez-Tafolla, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Comments from the Public

Susan Heberle, Community Member, spoke about the difficult year and how it affected students and families. She commented on the Local Control Funding Formula.

Tom Moccia, Parent, spoke about a possible PE waiver for middle school elite athletes.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), pulled Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget from Consent Agenda A for discussion.

- Item A-2 Contracts List
- Item A-3 The attached listing itemizes donations for Lodi Unified School District from April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021
- Item A-4 Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements
- Item A-5 2021-2022 Non-Public School Master Contract
- Item A-6 Addition of Platinum Teletherapy, Soliant Health, EdTheory, RoHealth, Speech Therapy Associates, Cross Country Education, Sunbelt Staffing, Braille Abilities, Speech Pathology, and Maxim Healthcare Staffing to the 2021-2022 Non-Public Agency Master Contract
- Item A-7 Resolution 2021-47 Declaring the Need for Emergency Repairs at JAESC Personnel Department as per Public Contract Code Sections 20113 and 22035
- Item A-8 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2021
- Item A-9 Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 27, 2021

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

The student preferential vote was aye.

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

Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), stated that money would be better spent reducing combination classes and class sizes rather than adding a full-time elementary director position and two other full-time administrative positions.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget.

The student preferential vote was aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Readmission: Student # 20/21-10-06

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

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Approval for the Addition of 6.0 FTE for the Utilization and Expenditure of CARES Funding Resources and Approval of Resolution 2021-49 for the Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees

Dr. Washer spoke briefly on the item and then introduced Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment. Dr. Sahli commented that this is follow-up from previous Board discussion on how the CARES funding will be spent hiring new short-term classified employees.

The Board expressed their gratitude for Dr. Sahli's hard work and are looking forward to the funds reaching and impacting the kids.

Public Comments

Susan Heberle, Community Member

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Approval for the Addition of 6.0 FTE for the Utilization and Expenditure of CARES Funding Resources and Approval of Resolution 2021-49 for the Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees.

The student preferential vote was aye.

Item OAI-2 Allocation of a \$500 one-time stipend for each Board of Education Member for additional meetings that were necessary to address issues related to the health pandemic during 2019-2021

Mr. Porter withdrew Item OAI-2 Allocation of a \$500 one-time stipend for each Board of Education Member for additional meetings that were necessary to address issues related to the health pandemic during 2019-2021.

Item OAI-3 Provide a yearly \$1,000 stipend, retro to 2019, for each Board of Education Member who completes the Masters in Governance program through the California School Boards Association (CSBA)

Mr. Porter withdrew Item OAI-3 Provide a yearly \$1,000 stipend, retro to 2019, for each Board of Education Member who completes the Masters in Governance program through the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Personnel Matters

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Knackstedt asked what the difference is between backfill and replacement. Mr. McKilligan explained that replacement is when the District is replacing someone who has left and backfill is a one-year temporary position that will be given back to the permanent certificated employee once they return from leave.

No public comments were received.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters.

Reports

Update on the Start of the 2021-2022 School Year

Superintendent Washer shared a video of students' first day pictures and then spoke briefly about the positive start of the school year. She thanked staff for all the hard work preparing over the summer break. Dr. Washer introduced Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education; Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education; and Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, who each gave an update on their respective departments pertaining to the start of the new school year.

Mr. Nava asked how many combination classes the elementary school sites have now.

Mr. McGregor stated they started with around 50 but they have been able to get it down to around 40.

Mr. Neely asked about kindergarten enrollment and requested a report for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Heberle commented on visiting a school site and seeing a kindergarten class sitting outside under a tree and suggested getting shade structures for schools. He requested that Mr. Palmquist provide the class print out for each high school after the classes stabilize.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Board President Freitas dismissed the student representatives.

On-Bill Financing (OBF) Board Presentation

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, introduced Brian Holloway, Director III, M&O, who spoke about a program offered by PG&E that he previously presented to the Board last November. Mr. Holloway explained the only change in the program now is the requirement for the District to pay for construction first. He stated that the bulk of the upgrades will be LED lighting, interior and exterior, throughout fourteen sites.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), welcomed new teachers and staff back to school.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Knackstedt stated he toured the Cepheid plant in Lodi and is excited for the opportunities it could bring to students and the community.

Mr. Nava commented that his grandchildren are very happy being at school.

Mr. Porter commented on recent communication with community members and spoke about COVID and the hope that more people will vaccinate. He suggested that teachers who are not vaccinated should be tested once a week.

Minutes, Regular Meeting

August 3, 2021

Page 5

Comments from the Superintendent

No further comments were given.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports were presented.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board