



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

Board Member Absent: Mr. Courtney Porter

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. Allen Dosty, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; Dr. Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, Education Services; and Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer

Student Representative: Ms. Jaesa Del Prato, Bear Creek High School and Mr. Lucas Goulart, Lodi High School

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 made prior to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 7:03 p.m. Attendance was recorded, and President Nava led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

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

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted to reject claim #630795, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Porter
	Motion Carried

Mr. Stroh motioned, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to reject claim #630103, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Porter
	Motion Carried

Recognition

Erin Church, Director of Personnel, introduced Michelle Brown, Principal, John Muir Elementary School, who presented the 2024-2025 Classified Employee of the Year to Shasta Khan, Paraeducator, Special Education, John Muir Elementary School.

Comments from Student Representatives

Ms. Jaesa Del Prato, Bear Creek High School and Mr. Lucas Goulart, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Young spoke about celebrating Veterans Day at John Muir Elementary School. He commented on tonight's Long Range Facilities Development Plan Report, stating that a slide in the report has a recommendation to move Vinewood to the Gantner property. Mr. Young explained that the recommendation has changed, and Vinewood will stay at the current location.

Comments from the Public

William Yates, Teacher & Parent, wished Board and staff a happy Thanksgiving and spoke about Superintendent Young's vision of a fully staffed district.

Rebecca Bratcher, Teacher, Beckman Elementary School, spoke about the demands of a SDC teacher, especially with over 14 students in a classroom. She commented on items not being discussed during bargaining and the amount of time it takes to complete a tri-annual IEP, suggesting that timecards should be allowed.

Mike Daily, Teacher, Special Education, Ansel Adams Elementary School, named surrounding school districts, stating they have higher pay and that Lodi USD teachers are leaving.

Anne King, Teacher, Tokay High School, showed a pie graph displaying percentages of Cost-of-Living, stating that the district is only giving LEA 62%.

Karen Jackson, Teacher, Special Education, Borchardt Elementary School, gave a shoutout to Mallori Tachella for creating a monthly newsletter "Tachella Talks" and her wishes for the Board and LEA to stop the "us vs them" and come together.

Daniel Tachella, Parent, spoke about his three children who have autism and how important consistency is, stating that Lodi USD is lacking consistency because of teacher vacancies and low salaries.

Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, commented on newly hired teachers having difficulty moving across the salary schedule with professional development.

Tamathy Braden, Paraeducator, Creekside Elementary School, spoke about the importance of paraeducators and the vital role they play in the classroom, especially when teachers are absent.

Joseph Gardea, Student Board Representative, McNair High School, stated his disappointed about how the district responded to the Senior Grad Night concern.

Report (President Nava moved the report up on the agenda)

Long Range Facilities Development Plan Draft Report

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, introduced Julian Watt, Studio Director, and Mariana Lavezzo, Director of School Planning, from LPA Design Studios. Mrs. Lavezzo explained that the Facility Master Plan Committee accompanied by District focus groups for elementary and secondary school programs were held, along with meetings from specialized support groups within the district that assisted in facility assessment and educational program vision during the master plan process. She said the draft plan addresses the short and long-term district goals and objectives regarding facility needs. Mrs. Lavezzo stated the master plan will serve as a tool in guiding the district's facilities planning and improvements for next ten years.

Ms. Alexander questioned why modernization would happen to a newly built school, when older sites still have portable buildings. Discussion ensued.

The Board agreed that the removal of portable buildings at school sites is a priority.

Public Comments

Lori Celiz, Teacher, Ansel Adams Elementary School

Tamathy Braden, Paraeducator, Creekside Elementary School

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School

Daniel Tachella, Parent

Student Representatives excused themselves from the meeting.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

No public comments were received.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Kahn pulled Item A-5.

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-2 Contracts List (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-3 Warrant Report (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-4 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-6 Resolution 2023-108 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for Uninterrupted Power Supplies (UPS) Replacement (District-wide) (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-7 Resolution 2023-109 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Lodi High School Demolition & New Flooring in Six Classrooms, Project No. 8150-5830-5 (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-8 Resolution 2023-110 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Replacing Various Floors at Multiple Sites, Project No. 3213-4416 (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-9 Resolution 2023-111 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Bear Creek High School Restrooms Modernization - Project No. 8150-5830-2 (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-10 Resolution 2023-112 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Davis Elementary School Re-Roofing- Project No. 3213-4416-3 (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-11 Proposed Revisions to Board Policies/Bylaws: Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination In District Programs and Activities; Policy 0420.4 Charter School Authorization; Policy 0500 Accountability; Policy 1100 Communication with the Public; Policy 1112 Media Relations; Policy 1114 District-Sponsored Social Media; Bylaw 9322 Agenda/Meeting Materials; and Bylaw 9323 Meeting Conduct (Mr. Young)

- Item A-12 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Dr. Dosty)
- Item A-13 Announcement of the Board's Intent to Hold its Annual Organizational Meeting on December 12, 2023, as Required by Education Code 35143 (Mr. Young)
- Item A-14 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2023 (Mr. Young)

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

Ayes: Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Porter Motion Carried

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

Item A-5 Resolution 2023-104 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Turner Sr. Academy Project No. 0829-8429

Mr. Kahn pulled Item A-5 from Consent Agenda A.

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 # 23/24-8-35
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-9-36
- Item B-3 Suspended Expulsion: Student # 23/24-10-37
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-11-38

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

Ayes: Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Porter Motion Carried

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logos for Beckman Elementary School, Plaza Robles High School, and Ronald E. McNair High School

Mr. Young presented the logos for Board consideration.

Public Comments

Joseph Gardea, Student Board Representative, McNair High School

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logos for Beckman Elementary School, Plaza Robles High School, and Ronald E. McNair High School, as follows:

Ayes: Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Porter Motion Carried

Item OAI-2 Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6161 Equipment, Books and Materials and Board Policy 6170.1 Transitional Kindergarten

Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, presented the revisions to Board Policy 6161 to the Board for consideration.

Public Comments

Cindy Brownell, Teacher, Beckman Elementary School

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-2 Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6161 Equipment, Books and Materials and Board Policy 6170.1 Transitional Kindergarten, as follows:

Ayes:	Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh	
Noes:	Alexander	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	Porter	Motion Carried

Item OAI-3 Credential Waiver Application and Approval

Dr. Dosty presented the Credential Waiver Application for Board consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-3 Credential Waiver Application and Approval, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh	
Noes:	None	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	Porter	Motion Carried

Item OAI-4 Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association

Dr. Dosty presented the Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association for Board consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-4 Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Stroh	
Noes:	None	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	Porter	Motion Carried

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Lori Celiz, Lodi Education Association (LEA), thanked Ms. Alexander, Mr. Stroh, and Mr. Porter for attending the recent bargaining session and spoke about the pros and cons of the recent proposal from the district.

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, stated that the next bargaining session for CSEA will be held on December 6 and invited Board members to attend.

Comments from the Board

Mr. Knackstedt commented on the land located on the northeast side of Lodi High School and asked Mr. Kahn if there is a plan in place for it.

Dr. Bal thanked the employee group representatives for speaking and questioned how often Board policies are updated. Mr. Young stated that Board policies should be updated as the laws change or whenever a change in policy is needed.

Mr. Stroh thanked LEA for the invitation to join negotiations. He commented on attending a spelling bee at Washington Elementary School.

Mrs. Macfarlane spoke about spending time at Elkhorn Elementary School for the Pumpkin Pie Social and Elkhorn Day Floats. She asked for Dr. Dosty to clarify that the direction from Board for negotiations has been given to each employee group representative.

Ms. Alexander spoke about attending the negotiation session. She gave a shoutout to Mr. Porter who was selected to referee the Championship Water Polo game. Ms. Alexander stated that only 60% of students feel emotionally safe and encouraged staff to continue to work towards improving the percentage.

Mr. Nava stated he felt that bargaining is close and hopes to have agreements in place before 2024. He thanked Board for the support as the 2023 Board President.

Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Young had no further comments.

Board Member Advisory Reports

Ms. Alexander stated that the Lodi 2x2 Committee met on October 30. She stated they discussed plans for a new hydrogen plant; the use of Kofu Park field; use of school sites after school hours; and an ordinance to restrict the unhoused within the proximity of schools. She stated that the Facility Master Plan Committee met on November 3 and discussed the Tokay High School ballfield; recommendations for Lodi High School ballfields; and reviewed the summer project lists.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board