



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. Margaret Machado, Tokay High School; Ms. Lexi Thor, Bear Creek High School; and Ms. Selene Wang, Middle College 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 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 Student Representative Selene Wang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Bal reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

Moment of Silence

The Board conducted a moment of silence for Victor Martinez, 2nd Grade Teacher at Lockeford Elementary School, who passed away on December 24.

Recognitions

Art Raab Memorial Essay Competition - 1st Place Winners

Vince Sinigaglia, 5th grade student at Larson Elementary School, and Kanaan Taha, 6th grade student at Elkhorn School, both read their 1st place winning essays.

2025-2026 Teacher of the Year

Eric Collins, Director, Personnel, presented the Teacher of the Year awards to Lindsey Vaccarezza, Teacher at Larson Elementary (Pre-K to Grade 5); Isaiah Stowers, Teacher at Delta Sierra (Grades 6-8); Beth Oesterman, Teacher at Lodi High (Grades 9-12).

Comments from Student Representatives

Ms. Margaret Machado, Tokay High School; Ms. Lexi Thor, Bear Creek High School; and Ms. Selene Wang, Middle College High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Young had nothing to report.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, commented on Item A-20.

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), commented on Item A-22.

Ellen Sahli, Community Member, commented on Item A-13.

Jamie Howen, Community Member, commented on Item A-13.

Susan Heberle, Community Member, commented on Item A-13.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mrs. Lenderman pulled Items A-19 and A-22; Mrs. Holbert pulled Item A-20.

- Item A-1 Contracts List (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-2 Warrant Report (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-3 Changes to the Adopted Budget (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-4 Donations - The attached listing itemizes donations for Lodi Unified School District from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-5 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-6 Approval of 2023-2024 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) Published During 2024-2025 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-7 Ag Welding, Ag Mechanics 3, and Advanced Ag Welding Courses of Study (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-8 Advanced Fashion and Design Course of Study and Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-9 Italian 1 Course of Study and Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-10 French 4 Course of Study and Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-11 American Sign Language 1 and American Sign Language 2 Courses of Study and Textbook Adoptions (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-12 Popular Culture and United States History Course of Study and Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-13 Ethnic Studies Course of Study and Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-14 AP Computer Science A CTE Course of Study (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-15 Construction Technology 2 Course of Study (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-16 Consumer Foods and Nutrition CTE (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-17 AP Psychology Textbook Adoption (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-18 Resolution 2025-02 Authorizing Certain Employees to Sign Orders Drawn on School District Funds (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-21 Resolution 2025-06 Notice of Completion (NOC) for the Westwood Playground Replacement & Shade Structure Project 6128-4316 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-23 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2024 (Mr. Young)

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter 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-20 Resolution 2025-05 Authorization of Full Services Architect Proposal for the Samuel L. Gantner Elementary School Project No. 0833-8913-345-30

Mrs. Holbert explained the technical error, stating the name of the school should be Samuel M. Gantner, not Samuel L. Gantner.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item A-20 Resolution 2025-05 Authorization of Full Services Architect Proposal for the Samuel L. Gantner Elementary School Project No. 0833-8913-345-30, with the corrected name as Samuel M. Gantner, as follows:

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

Motion carried

Item A-19 Resolution 2025-04 Rejection of All Bids for Julia Morgan Elementary School Re-Roof Project No. 0825-8425-190-11

Mrs. Lenderman asked if the roof at Julia Morgan needs to be re-roofed.

Mrs. Holbert stated the project is being pushed to next summer due to higher priority projects needing to get completed. She shared that staff has made accommodations to make sure there are no issues with the roof between now and next summer.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-19 Resolution 2025-04 Rejection of All Bids for Julia Morgan Elementary School Re-Roof Project No. 0825-8425-190-11.

Item A-22 Proposed Revisions to Board Policies: 2000 Concepts and Roles; 2110 Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties; 2111 Superintendent Governance Standards; 2140 Evaluation of Superintendent; 2210 Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy; and Board Bylaws: 9150 Student Board Representatives; and 9250 Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits

Mrs. Lenderman voiced concern about Bylaw 9250 in the area of Board compensation.

Mr. Young stated that the language is pulled directly from Ed Code and is consistent with the law.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item A-22 Proposed Revisions to Board Policies: 2000 Concepts and Roles; 2110 Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties; 2111 Superintendent Governance Standards; 2140 Evaluation of Superintendent; 2210 Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy; and Board Bylaws: 9150 Student Board Representatives; and 9250 Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, Stroh
Noes:	Lenderman
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 # 24/25-5-12

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

Public Comments on Other Action Items

Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, commented on Item OAI-5. She questioned if the 1.07% for LUSDAA will be retroactive to July 2024.

Mr. Young stated that LUSDAA is an unrepresented group, therefore, Board decides if it will be retroactive.

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logo for Independence School

Mr. Young presented the primary logo for Independence School for Board review and approval.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logo for Independence School.

Item OAI-2 Resolution 2025-01 Zero Emission School Bus and Infrastructure (ZESBI) Incentive Project Application Approval

Mrs. Holbert introduced Monique Fraticelli Esparza, Director III, Transportation, who was available to answer questions.

Dr. Bal asked if each school bus really costs over \$500,000. Ms. Esparza confirmed, stating staff is working on applying for additional grants, in hopes of having zero cost for the district.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve Item OAI-2 Resolution 2025-01 Zero Emission School Bus and Infrastructure (ZESBI) Incentive Project Application Approval.

Item OAI-3 Lodi Unified Board of Education - Consideration for Approval of Charter School Renewal Petitions from Aspire Benjamin Holt College Preparatory Academy, Aspire Benjamin Holt Middle School, Aspire Vincent Shalvey Academy, and Aspire River Oaks Charter School

Peter Lambert, Area 2 Director, and Rafael Ceja, Director of Education, introduced Tony Solina, Executive Director, Aspire Public Schools- Central Valley Region; Danessa Partin, Principal at Aspire Vincent Shalvey Academy; Laura Hawley, Principal at Aspire River Oaks Charter School; Maria Cortez, Principal at Aspire Benjamin Holt Middle School. They each spoke briefly about the experiences at Aspire. Tony Solina, spoke on behalf of Wesley Frakes, Principal at Aspire Benjamin Holt College Preparatory Academy.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-3 Lodi Unified Board of Education - Consideration for Approval of Charter School Renewal Petitions from Aspire Benjamin Holt College Preparatory Academy, Aspire Benjamin Holt Middle School, Aspire Vincent Shalvey Academy, and Aspire River Oaks Charter School, as follows:

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

Motion carried

Item OAI-4 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Groups: Confidential, Mental Health Therapists and Lodi Unified School District Administrator Association (LUSDAA)

Mrs. Juarez, Executive Director, Fiscal Services, explained that the AB1200 document is a statutory public disclosure requirement. The form discloses that the Confidential, Mental Health Therapists, and LUSDAA employee groups will receive a 1.07 percent increase to their respective salary schedules.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Groups: Confidential, Mental Health Therapists and Lodi Unified School District Administrator Association (LUSDAA).

Item OAI-5 Improvement to the Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA), Confidential, and Mental Health Therapist Salary Schedules to Reflect 1.07% Salary Improvement in Alignment with the District's Agreements with Other Employee Groups for the 2024/2025 School Year

Mrs. Church stated if approved, LUSDAA, Confidential, and Mental Health Therapist salary schedules will increase by 1.07%, effective July 1, 2024.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Improvement to the Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA), Confidential, and Mental Health Therapist Salary Schedules to Reflect 1.07% Salary Improvement in Alignment with the District's Agreements with Other Employee Groups for the 2024/2025 School Year.

Public Comments on Reports

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), questioned Policy 4136/4236/4336.

Reports

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 presented Board policies for review. The proposed revisions will return to the next Board meeting for consideration.

Board Member Advisory Reports

No reports were given.

Comments from the Public

Susan Heberle, Community Member, spoke about attending a LCAP meeting.

Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, questioned why the Comments from the Public section was moved to the end of the meeting. She spoke about transparency, communication, and equity.

Michelle Orgon, Teacher, Needham Elementary School, shared her excitement that the 2nd grade classrooms at Needham received salmon eggs and that Read Across America will start in March. She spoke about the homeless and foster student needs at Needham.

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke about the catastrophic wildfires in Los Angeles area and suggested the district do something to support the people affected. She commented on a news article that Stockton Unified is looking at hiring a firm to get teachers from other countries. Mrs. Lennon-Wilkins spoke about her desire to have Lodi USD be a destination district.

Comments from Board Members

Ms. Alexander spoke about the High School Honors Concert at Delta College program and her excitement about hearing the Martin Luther King essays from the students.

Dr. Bal thanked the essay winners for sharing their essays and congratulated the teacher of the year winners. She asked about Manlio Silva being too full and projections for next year. Mr. Young stated he would confer with Mark Dawson, Area 1 Director, to gather information.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board