



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 5, 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. Joe Nava; Mr. Gary Knackstedt; and Mr. George Neely (teleconferencing)

Board Member Absent: Mr. Ron Heberle

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

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 Aredia Educational Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA 95240.

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 Board Member, Mr. Porter.

Closed Session

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

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to approve the appointment of Christine Alberg as Elementary Vice Principal, effective 2021/2022 school year, location TBD, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Mr. Nava motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Settlement Agreement of OAH Case No. 2021080163, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	Freitas	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Ricardo Lupian, Mechanic III, Maintenance & Operations, who passed away on Saturday, October 2, 2021.

Recognitions

Week of the School Administrator – October 10-16, 2021

Mr. Freitas read the Proclamation of Week of the School Administrator and Neil Young, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education, accepted on behalf of all administrators.

National School Lunch Week – October 11-15, 2021

Mr. Freitas read the Proclamation of National School Lunch Week and Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Nutrition Services Department.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Washer congratulated the Tokay Royal Regiment Band who competed in the 4th Annual Pitman Preview of Champions Parade. She stated the band won 1st place in the Class 2A Division and placed 5th overall. Dr. Washer thanked Family Promise of San Joaquin County for the generous donation of over \$2,700 in gift cards for students and families in need. She announced that the Inclusion Film Camp facilitated by Joey Travolta is being conducted at McNair High School from October 4th – 15th. She stated the camp is for special education students to learn from professionals in the film making field. Dr. Washer thanked the community for attending the Dancin' on Dynamite GOT Kids fundraiser and stated it was a success with over 200 people in attendance.

Comments from the Public

Chris Adam, Parent, spoke about COVID-19 vaccine safety and the possibility of a vaccine exemption waiver for students.

Brooke Shamhart, Teacher, Lois E. Borchardt Elementary, recognized her site administrators for their great work and stated her opinions on the pandemic, vaccine choice, and lack of substitutes.

Tiffany Ivey, Parent, displayed a poster board on COVID-19 vaccine adverse reports and spoke about her views on the pandemic.

Reiss Mahoney, Community Member, spoke about his view on the COVID-19 vaccine.

Scott Woznick, Special Education Teacher, spoke about his beliefs on the pandemic and COVID-19 vaccination.

Ashley Herzick, Speech Language Pathologist, spoke about the Board fighting for our community and leaving the District if the vaccine is mandatory.

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School, commented on a public comment from a previous Board meeting and about attracting more substitute teachers to the District.

Tye Brockmeier, Parent, spoke about his personal experience with COVID-19 and pulling his children out of the District if the vaccine is mandated for children.

Jenessa Weller, Paraed-Severely Handicapped, commented on her experience with workplace separation due to being unvaccinated.

Kenneth Wheeler, Parent, spoke about how the school sites are confiscating cell phones from students and would like Board to review the policy that allows this practice.

Alex Aliferis, Substitute Teacher, spoke about his experience of being COVID-19 tested weekly at work and requested the Board to stand up for the choice to vaccinate or not.

Board recessed for 10 minutes.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, pulled Items A-1 and A-5 from Consent Agenda A for discussion.

- Item A-2 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-3 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA)
- Item A-4 Addition of Wilder Interpreting Services to the 2021-2022 Non-Public Agency Master Contract
- Item A-6 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2021

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

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

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

Item A-1 Contracts List

Ms. Orgon questioned contract #2, the agreement with City of Lodi Parks & Recreation, and asked if the contract total was an increase or decrease from last year.

Dr. Washer answered, stating it was an increase but added it was likely from an increase in students.

No further Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item A-1 Contracts List, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Item A-5 Approval of a Job Description for Webmaster

Ms. Orgon asked the Board to consider student artwork for new logos instead of outsourcing a marketing company.

Dr. Washer stated the item on the agenda is a job description for a webmaster and that the marketing company/logo design was a different agenda item.

Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

No Board comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item A-5 Approval of a Job Description for Webmaster, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Consent Agenda B - Student Discipline Cases

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 21/22-10-09
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 21/22-9-10
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 21/22-9-11
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student # 21/22-9-12

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

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Behavior Advantage Proposal

Dr. Washer presented the proposal for the Behavior Advantage program for Board consideration.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-1 Behavior Advantage Proposal, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Personnel Matters

Amber Jaeger, Director, Personnel, presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted to approve Personnel Matters, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; Porter	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Heberle	Motion Carried

Reports

Learning Recovery Plan and Alternative Dispute Resolution Grants

Dr. Washer briefly presented the Learning Recovery Plan (LRP) and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Grant report, including each grant amount, LRP grant \$2,506,294; and ADR grant \$500,000. She stated the Special Education Maintenance of Effort will increase by \$1.5 million.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

American Rescue Plan (ARP)/Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III): Review of Stakeholder Input and Staffing Considerations to Support Students

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment, and Rafael Ceja, Program Coordinator, Curriculum & Instruction, shared in presenting the executive summary. Dr. Sahli discussed the findings from the Thought Exchange survey and shared the question that was asked of stakeholders, "What is most needed in Lodi Unified School District to improve student academic achievement and learning outcomes? Please enter one idea per thought and give your reason why you feel it is needed." Dr. Sahli spoke about the consideration for additional staffing based on Board priorities and stakeholder input.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke about the completion of the first quarter and thanked all the teachers and administrators for their hard work. She mentioned there have been issues with the teachers accessing the \$200 funds that were intended for the classrooms.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Knackstedt commented about the newly painted bike safety paths adjacent to some of the Stockton area schools.

Mr. Nava recognized the day as being World Teacher Day.

Mr. Porter requested updated reports on RBET, Digital Academy, Valley Robotics, PBIS, and RaaWee K12.

Mr. Neely complimented President Freitas on the way he is running Board meetings.

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Mr. Freitas spoke about the tour facilitated by Meehleis Modular of the newly completed Tokay High School Gym.

Comments from the Superintendent

No further comments were given.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports were presented.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board