

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

Board Member Absent: Mr. Jeff Stroh

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

Mrs. Valerie McFee, Confidential Unit Member, spoke about the confidential employee group current health care benefits and provided a handout displaying all classified employee groups cap amounts.

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 President Nava led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

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

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to reject claim #624636, as follows:

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

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

Superintendent Young spoke about attending the upcoming football game at Bear Creek High. He displayed the home page of the newly launched Lodi USD website and pictures from the new Lodi High School pool.

Comments from the Public

Andrew Robison, Parent, stated that no one from the district has reached out to him and he is upset about his ongoing issues with the Special Education Department.

Maria Smith, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School, spoke about negotiations and requested 8.22% COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment).

Jackie Fry, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School, spoke about upcoming events at John Muir and invited Board members to attend. She spoke about negotiations and requested 8.22% COLA.

Adriana Hernandez, Teacher, Lodi High School, spoke about the removal of pride flags from her classroom and asked when the flags could go back up.

Anne King, Teacher, Tokay High School, spoke about the district honoring her for 30-years of service and requested the 8.22% instead of receiving a token award. She spoke about twenty teachers teaching 120% and five vacancies at Tokay.

Anne Swehla Garcia, Julia Morgan Elementary School, spoke about the RBET mini conference and what a success it was. She spoke about some upcoming events at Julia Morgan and invited Board to attend. She commented on the rise in health care costs and requested 8.22% COLA.

Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, spoke about her friend having a massive stroke and the rise in health care costs.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, commented on Item A-8 and requested a schedule to be provided for when HVACs will be replaced at each school site.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Ms. Alexander pulled Item A-6 and Mr. Porter pulled Item A-10

- Item A-1 Contracts List
- Item A-2 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-3 Warrant Report
- Item A-4 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters
- Item A-5 Donations
- Item A-7 Resolution 2023-95 Finding that Board Member Sherry Alexander was Absent from the Regular Board Meeting of October 3, 2023 Due to Illness
- Item A-8 Resolution 2023-96 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the District Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) Installation Project No. 3213-4416-1
- Item A-9 Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements
- Item A-11 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 3, 2023

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

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

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

Item A-6 Resolution 2023-94 Authorization to Move Forward with the Tokay High Baseball and Softball Fields

Ms. Alexander asked for clarification on the details and planning for the fields.

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, stated that the fields will be built to California Interscholastic Federation regulation and if the Board approves Resolution 2023-94, it will move forward to the design build procurement phase. Discussion ensued.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-6 Resolution 2023-94 Authorization to Move Forward with the Tokay High Baseball and Softball Fields, as follows:

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

Item A-10 Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6120 Response to Intervention and Instruction; Board Policy and Rule 6141.2 Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs; Board Policy 6161.11 Textbooks and Supplementary Instructional Materials; and Board Policy 6178.1 Work Experience Education

Mr. Porter questioned Board Policy 6161.11, section on Appropriateness of Materials. He asked why the Superintendent or designee is the one determining the compliance of the material with district criteria. He feels it should be a decision made by a committee. Discussion ensued.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-10 Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6120 Response to Intervention and Instruction; Board Policy and Rule 6141.2 Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs; Board Policy 6161.11 Textbooks and Supplementary Instructional Materials; and Board Policy 6178.1 Work Experience Education, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, and Macfarlane	
Noes:	Porter	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	Stroh	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 Suspended Expulsion: Student # 23/24-12-18

Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-9-19

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

Ayes: Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, and Macfarlane

Noes: Porter

Abstain: None

Absent: Stroh

Motion Carried

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Approval of the Primary Logos for Julia Morgan Elementary and Leroy Nichols Elementary Schools

Mr. Young presented the new logos for Board approval.

No Board or public comments were received.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-1 Approval of the Primary Logos for Julia Morgan Elementary and Leroy Nichols Elementary Schools, as follows:

Ayes: Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane, and Porter

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Stroh

Motion Carried

Reports

Services Provided by Instructional Coaches

Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, introduced Jennifer Tillet, Program Coordinator, who asked the instructional coaches to stand as they were introduced. Mrs. Tillet explained that coaches provide support in three different ways, individual; site; and districtwide. Elizabeth Wright, STEM Instructional Coach; Cindy Mettler, AVID Instructional Coach; Teri Dix, New Teacher Instructional Coach; and Mrs. Tillet presented the report to Board that highlighted the roles of coaches and the services they provide.

Ms. Alexander asked if the instructional coach department has everything they need. Mrs. Tillet stated there is a need for a social studies coach and TK support.

Mr. Porter stated that AVID is a great program and asked if professional development has improved student achievements. Discussion ensued.

The Board thanked the coaches for the informative report and everything they do to support teachers.

Student Representative Goulart spoke fondly of the coaches and the support they provide.

Public Comments

Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School

Anne Swehla Garcia, Julia Morgan Elementary School

Hollie Mueller, Instructional Coach, C&I

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees, Lodi Chapter #77, spoke about the increase in health care rates and commented on the unrepresented employee groups putting the cap on the salary in 2005/2006.

Valerie McFee, Confidential Unit Member, stated the employees who voted to add the cap to the salary in 2005/2006 are no longer in the district and was happy that it came to an end when Board voted to implement a cap for the confidential group in 2022.

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke about the unrepresented groups cap being placed on the salary in 2005/2006. She commented on Mr. Robison, a parent who spoke during public comments, stating he was upset that the Board spent lots of time debating \$12 million on sports fields and no time on needs for special education students. Ms. Lennon-Wilkins stated LEA is concerned about the negative effects on students if Lodi USD is unable to recruit and retain teachers.

Comments from the Board

Ms. Alexander highlighted that it is Mental Health Awareness Month.

Mr. Knackstedt spoke about attending the Health Benefit Fair at the district office on October 6.

Dr. Bal spoke about briefly attending the RBET mini conference.

Mr. Porter commented on visiting the new Lodi High pool facilities and stated the district should look at putting a policy in place for ChatGPT.

Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Young had no further comments.

Board Member Advisory Reports

Mrs. Macfarlane commented on attending a California School Boards Association Meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board