



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 15, 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. Gary Knackstedt; Mr. Joe Nava; and Mr. George Neely

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

Meeting Recorder: Mrs. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

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 received prior to the Board adjourning to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:09 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Vice President Macfarlane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

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

Personnel Matters

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of April Scott as Elementary Vice Principal, effective 2021/2022 school year, location to be determined.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer announced that Burlington (a store new to Lodi), as part of their adoptaclassroom.org program, awarded \$5,000 to Leroy Nichols Elementary School. Dr. Washer explained that although California has lifted certain restrictions for meetings, services, and worship services, the guidance has not changed for schools or any District facilities; thus, masks and social distancing will still be required. She explained that Mr. Kahn, Chief Business Officer, will present a state budget update at the next Board Meeting and we will need to revisit our Pandemic Safety Plan, as it is related to some of the COVID-19 funding streams.

Order of Agenda

President Freitas changed the order of the agenda items.

Other Action Items

(Item OAI-1) Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee Annual Report 2019-20

Michael Mark, President, Measure U Committee, presented the annual report. Mr. Mark noted that the committee also includes Terrie Hedden, Stephanie Hammond, and Claudia Mennuti. He informed Board that Alex Aliferis and Crystal Kirst have resigned from the committee and there are now three open positions. Mr. Mark reported on the projects that were completed during 2019-20.

Board Comments

Mr. Nava thanked Mr. Mark for his leadership and asked staff to advertise in an attempt to fill the vacant committee positions.

Mr. Neely asked Mr. Mark to thank the other members of the committee for their work and dedication.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee Annual Report 2019-20.

(Item OAI-7) Resolution 2021-41 Lodi Unified School District Board of Education Encourages State to Lift Mask Requirements for Schools

Superintendent Washer presented the item for discussion.

Board Comments

Mr. Neely explained that this would enable the Board Legislative Advisory Committee and parents to take this resolution to state legislators in an attempt to change current mask requirements for students.

Mr. Heberle, Mr. Nava, and Mr. Freitas all voiced support for the resolution and asked for parent support at the state and legislative level.

Public Comments

Tom Moccia, Parent, thanked Board for taking this stand and fighting for the mental health of children. He stated that parents need to get involved in the issue regarding mask requirements, as well as involvement in how governmental dollars are spent.

Michelle Grupe, Community Member, stated her appreciation to the Board for taking a stand and noted that parents can join the campaign against masking and vaccines at Facebook group "Let Them Breathe 209."

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-7 Resolution 2021-41 Lodi Unified School District Board of Education Encourages State to Lift Mask Requirements for Schools.

Comments from the Public

Mishell Wolff, Teacher, Lodi High School, stated she has 55 students attending her summer school class via Zoom and voiced her displeasure for signing on as a summer school instructor because the job was advertised as paying per diem and she states she is currently being paid an hourly wage.

Tammy Williams-Ankorn, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School, informed Board that she applied to teach summer school based on the advertised work hours and the per diem rate of pay. She stated the hours were altered, as was the pay after accepting the position.

Amy Borland, Teacher, Larson Elementary School, spoke regarding the pay and hours for summer school, stating the language and terms of position had changed.

Christina Dougherty, Teacher, Lawrence Elementary School, spoke regarding the advertised work hours and pay rate for summer school teachers. She also expressed dissatisfaction with communication, stating she is not receiving all District emails.

Michael Heberle, LEA Negotiations Chairperson, asked Board to honor the terms of the Lodi Education Association (LEA) Memorandum of Understanding regarding pay and hours for summer school. He is hoping that LEA and the Board can achieve good rapport by working together.

Michael Mark, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, San Joaquin Building & Construction Trades Council, presented examples of various skilled trades positions and explained the "Earn as You Learn" program that is available to Lodi USD graduates. He explained if a would-be apprentice is unsure of career direction, there is a six-week apprenticeship readiness program to assist in the decision-making process.

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School, spoke of a lack of trust between teachers and the District and summer school pay issues.

Jen Cassel, Teacher, Tokay High School, spoke of the high numbers of students in some of the summer school class sessions. She asked that the Board consider revamping the summer school program.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Porter and Mr. Heberle asked to remove Item A-1 and President Freitas pulled Item A-6.

Item A-2 Purchase Order Detail Report

Item A-3 Local Control Accountability Plan – Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Item A-4 Approval of Resolution 2021-38 for the Transition Partnership Program (TPP) a Cooperative contract between Lodi Unified School District and the Department of Rehabilitation for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024

Item A-5 Resolution 2021-40 Authorization to Request Proposals – Authorization to Advertise And Request Proposals for Ruckus Wireless Infrastructure Upgrade Project at all District Locations

Item A-7 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2021

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Neely 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-1 Contracts List

Mr. Porter asked for more information on #3 and #4 on the contracts list. Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, and Superintendent Washer provided information regarding the SAFE Program, facilitated by the Child Abuse Prevention Council of San Joaquin County. Dr. Sahli provided clarification of the Core, Inc. contract, which covers 90% of District sites offering SIPPS training and support.

Mr. Porter asked how the data can be measured for such programs.

Mr. Heberle asked for current data for the SAFE program, noting that a report from a few years ago showed a lower percentage of students and families taking part and/or finishing the program.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Tammy Williams-Ankorn, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School

Mr. Porter moved and Mr. Neely, seconded to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-1 Contracts List, as follows:

Ayes: Freitas; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; Neely; and Porter

Noes: Heberle

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Item A-6 Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 3, 2021

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to table this item to a future meeting.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #20/21-8-05

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

Other Action Items, continued

Item OAI-2 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Dr. Sahli presented the plan and final budget document for Board consideration.

President Freitas thanked Dr. Sahli, Rafael Ceja, Coordinator, Educational Support Services, and their respective staffs for their work on this living document.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Item OAI-3 2021-2022 Budget Adoption

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, and Adina Andris, Director of Budgets, presented the executive summary as an overview of the proposed 2021-2022 budget and fielded questions from Board.

Discussion included CARES funding, accounting procedures, enrollment projections, increase to unemployment insurance costs, and other budgetary considerations.

Public Comment

No public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 2021-2022 Budget Adoption.

Item OAI-4 Resolution 2021-32 Proposed School Site Stockton Site I Project – Adoption of Mitigated Negative Declaration

Mr. Kahn explained that the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration adequately analyzes all impacts that the project may have and hereby approves adoption, by approval of Resolution 2021-32, of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.

Discussion ensued regarding restrictions to developer's fees, enrollment projections, and various school construction issues.

Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

Tammy Williams-Ankorn, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Jen Cassel, Teacher, Tokay High School

Mr. Heberle moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 Resolution 2021-32 Proposed School Site Stockton Site I Project – Adoption of Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Item OAI-5 Resolution 2021-33 Intent to Convery Easement to City of Lodi and Calling Public Hearing

Mr. Kahn stated that this was one of the first steps in the preparation of the Gantner property in Lodi. He stated there will be a Public Hearing at the Board Meeting of July 13, 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding the specifics to the proposed easement. Mr. Kahn noted that a moveable structure could be erected on the easement.

Public Comments

None

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Resolution 2021-33 Intent to Convery Easement to City of Lodi and Calling Public Hearing.

Item OAI-6 Resolution 2021-39 Spending Determination with Respect to Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Monies Received from the Education Protection Account (EPA) to determine how monies received from EPA will be spent

Mr. Kahn presented this annual Board item pertaining to the restrictions and use of Education Protection Account funds received.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-6 Resolution 2021-39 Spending Determination with Respect to Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Monies Received from the Education Protection Account (EPA) to determine how monies received from EPA will be spent.

Item OAI-8 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (“LPPA”)

Mr. Kahn stated this action satisfies the Board’s public disclosure requirement. He noted the agreement will add a little over one million dollars per year to District expenditures.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-8 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (“LPPA”).

Item OAI-9 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the document for Board consideration.

Public Comments

None

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-9 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association.

Item OAI-10 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Supervisors

Mr. Kahn presented the AB1200 form detailing the funding aspects of the agreement with the supervisory unit. He noted the agreement will add \$265,000 per annum to District expenditures.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-10 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Supervisors.

Item OAI-11 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association

Mr. McKilligan requested Board approval of the agreement with the classified unit represented by the California School Employees Association.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-11 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association.

Personnel Matters

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

Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters, as presented.

Reports

Staff will Provide Information Regarding Tokay High Baseball Field and Lodi High Varsity Softball Field Conceptual Designs and Cost Estimate

Mr. Kahn presented the options for a baseball field and a softball field to satisfy Title IX concerns at Tokay and Lodi high schools.

Mr. Neely asked about funding sources. Mr. Kahn responded that these expenditures would be from District funds, as there is no bond money to cover the proposed projects.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost, specifications, features, the idea of a central competition area, and if the proposed fields would be competition or practice only fields.

Board Members voiced concern regarding the budgeting of funds for the upkeep of these and all facilities and they requested that the people who will use these specific facilities to be involved in the planning/design phases.

Mr. Knackstedt asked for a discussion to be conducted with the designer/architect so that both fields at Lodi High could be used at the same time. He also would like to have the high school athletic directors involved in future discussions/planning sessions.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Christina Dougherty, Teacher, Lawrence Elementary School

Erik Sandstrom, Principal, Tokay High School

Local Priority Indicator Data Review for the California School Dashboard

Dr. Sahli and Uve Dahmen, Coordinator, Research/Assessment/Evaluation, presented an overview of the data that is currently available on the Dashboard including performance levels of local priorities, basic services, academic standards, parent involvement, school climate, and course access.

Mr. Neely stated the need to reflect on the student achievement gap. He asked that work on lessening the achievement gap be kept on the forefront and addressed at every Board meeting.

Public Comments

Tammy Williams-Ankorn, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke of collaboration efforts between Board and LEA. She would like the District to allocate funds to reduce class size and to reduce the number of combination classes. She explained that the status of the District is causing experienced and veteran teachers to seek work in other districts. She asked Board for trust and transparency with all employees.

Comments from the Board

Mr. Neely stated he would like to return to Closed Session to continue discussions from the earlier session.

Mr. Heberle asked for data from the SAFE Program to be returned to a future Board Meeting or sent directly to him. He asked that summer school enrollment start earlier. He asked that LCAP and budget also start their processes earlier. Mr. Heberle said he attended the four comprehensive high school graduations and it was nice to see students able to be together.

Mr. Knackstedt agreed that it was great to attend the in-person graduations and thanked Principal Sandstrom, who was in the audience, for providing comfortable accommodations for Board.

Mr. Porter commented that he was thankful that the 2020-21 school year was over and thanked parents and students for their resolve. He thanked teachers and other employee group members for their tenacity. He added that summer school class sizes need to be looked at.

Mr. Freitas noted he attended several graduation ceremonies and thanked principals and their staffs for making it possible. He recognized and congratulated the Giorgi family of Lodi upon the graduation of their son David. Mr. Freitas wished everyone a happy Father's Day.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

Closed Session, Continued

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned back to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened again at 10:14 p.m.

Closed Session

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

Student Matters

Mr. Neely moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of 2020-2021 Non-Public School Student (Changes) number 20.

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Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board