



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 2, 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. Joe Nava; Mr. Gary Knackstedt; and Mr. George Neely

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

Student Representatives: Arriana Galvan, Tokay High School, and Sydney Featherston (substitute for William Machado), Lodi High School, were present.

Meeting Recorder: Mrs. Michelle Armstrong, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m. via YouTube and GoToWebinar.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:38 p.m. and attendance was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Representative, Sydney Featherston.

Closed Session

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

Closed Session Student Matters:

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board approved the placement of 2020-2021 Non-Public School New Student number 60 by the following vote:

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

Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Porter seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Syed Shah as Director III Payroll, effective date TBD.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Washer commented on the 2020 Central California Esports League (CCEL) Fall Exhibition. She stated the championships were held on January 23, 2021 where McNair High School and Bear Creek High School played three matches with McNair barely pulling off the win to remain the league champs for League of Legends. Dr. Washer commented that the program continues to grow with the addition of teams from Stockton USD and Manteca USD, at the start of the spring season, in addition to adding Stanislaus and Sacramento County in the fall. She shared pictures from Woodbridge School's virtual Open House and Family STEM Night. She explained that students and families were invited to take part in five learning activities and then join John Collins "The Paper Airplane Guy" for a paper airplane demonstration and tutorial. Superintendent Washer thanked Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School staff and PTA for inviting her back for a second night of cookie decorating with students and families. She gave the following update on the county tier: Adjusted Case Rate 11.6 (purple); Positivity Rate 5 (red); Health Equity 6.9 (red). She explained that all three metrics must fall into the red for two weeks to change tiers. Dr. Washer thanked Dr. Maggie Park, Public Health Officer, San Joaquin County, and the staff at San Joaquin County Office of Education for the quick start on the vaccination rollout. She stated as of March 2, 1,970 District employees had received the vaccination. Superintendent Washer spoke about the new Grant Program for In-Person Instruction, stating that the governor and legislative leaders reached an agreement, with a vote scheduled for March 4 and the governor is anticipated to sign the grant March 5.

President's Award(s)

Mr. Freitas presented Lodi Unified School District's School Resource Officers: Officer Brannon Haro; Officer Hettie Stillman; Officer James Landis; Officer Nick Welton; Officer Israel Camarena; Officer Silvia Perez; Officer Garrett Robershaw; and Sheriff Frank Mehrer, former School Resource Deputy, with the President's Award for displaying exceptional leadership and service to our Lodi and Stockton communities.

Comments from Student Representatives

Arriana Galvan, Tokay High School, and Sydney Featherston (substitute), Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Comments from Board Members

President Freitas adjusted the agenda and moved Board Comments.

Mr. Porter recognized John and Stephanie Grim both teachers at Lodi Unified School District, stating their daughter, Alicia Grim, student at Lodi High School, signed a letter of intent to play water polo at Fresno State University on a scholarship.

Mr. Nava stated he would like to get back to in-person learning as soon as possible. He complemented the student representatives on their reports.

Mr. Neely shared pictures from Lockeford School food distribution, commenting on the good food and fresh fruits that was being handed out to families. He shared that while at Lockeford School, he noticed it needs to be repainted.

Mrs. Macfarlane thanked Woodbridge Elementary for including her in the Open House and Family STEM Night. She recognized the employees that have been reporting to school sites and District offices, since the start of the pandemic and thanked them for their dedication.

Mr. Knackstedt stated he would like to get students back to school safely and as soon as possible.

Mr. Heberle acknowledged the student representatives and stated he likes hearing the reports. He commented on the progress of the current Measure U projects and how well it is going and is looking forward to the next projects to start. Mr. Heberle recognized the Tokay High Science Bowl team for their second-place win at the Central Valley Regional Science Bowl Competition.

Comments from the Public

Branda Delatorre, Parent, spoke about starting in-person classes.

Tom Moccia, Parent, spoke about the current Lodi Education Association (LEA) Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) and starting in-person classes.

Morgan Cedarholm, Parent, spoke about renegotiating the LEA MOU and starting in-person classes.

Becky Harper, Parent, spoke about renegotiating the LEA MOU and starting in-person classes.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Porter pulled Items A-1 and A-2 from Consent Agenda A for discussion.

- Item A-3 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA)
- Item A-4 Proposed Board Policy Revisions from School Climate and Compliance Department
- Item A-5 Resolution 2021-11 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Fire Alarm Replacement Project at Needham Elementary School No. 0917-8217-7
- Item A-6 Resolution 2021-13 Award Contract for Wide Area Network (WAN) Connections - Group 2
- Item A-7 Resolution 2021-14 Award Contract for Internet Service Provider (ISP) Services
- Item A-8 Resolution 2021-15 Award Contract for Network Switch Basic Maintenance
- Item A-9 Resolution 2021-17 Award Multiple e-Rate Eligible Service Contracts
- Item A-10 Resolution 2021-20 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Bear Creek High School Agriculture Complex, Project No. 0949-8249
- Item A-11 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2021

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

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

Item A-1 Contracts List

Mr. Porter questioned what the hourly rate is for the Lozano Smith attorneys and asked about the agreement with Gilbert Associates, Inc. having cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, discussed the Gilbert Associates, Inc. agreement and stated he would send the Lozano Smith cost per hour information to Mr. Porter.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board approved the Contracts List by the following vote:

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

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-2 Changes to the Adopted Budget

Mr. Porter questioned Unrestricted/Restricted, Uses Item 9780, Operational Reserve, increasing from \$9,128,086 to \$11,996,312.

Mr. Kahn stated the increase was likely due to unused purchase orders being closed out and money falling back into an unassigned position temporarily. He stated he would send Mr. Porter the details on the Operational Reserve for him to review.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-2 Changes to the Adopted Budget.

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

The student representatives were dismissed, and Board took a short break.

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Second Interim Financial Report

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, introduced Adina Andris, Director of Budgets, who presented the executive summary for the Second Interim Financial Report. Ms. Andris stated the biggest update from the First Interim Financial Report to the Second is the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenues, stating Lodi Unified School District is up \$1.7 million due to an increase in unduplicated pupils. She stated the District has experienced significant decline in enrollment, down 1,200 students during the hold harmless budget years and so the District will see that effect in 2022-23 fiscal years. Ms. Andris stated the Unrestricted Ending Fund Balance projections are anticipated to be \$82 million in 2020-21, \$87 million in 2021-22, and \$81 million in 2022-23. She added that the projections include the reduction of 40 teacher full-time equivalent (FTE) positions via attrition equivalent to 25 FTE and reduction of funded but unfilled budgeted positions.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Second Interim Financial Report.

Item OAI-2 Approval of the Board of Education of Amendment #1 to Facilities Lease between Lodi Unified School District (“District”) and Meehleis Modular Buildings, Inc. (“MMB”) for the construction of the Needham Multi-Purpose Room Increment III (“Project”) located at located at 420 S. Pleasant Avenue. Lodi, CA 95240 (“Project Site”)

Mr. Kahn presented the final increment for the Facilities Lease between Lodi Unified School District and Meehleis Modular Buildings, Inc. for the construction of the Needham Multi-Purpose Room for Board approval.

Mr. Freitas commented that it is wonderful to see the Measure U project coming to fruition.

No further Board comments received.

Public Comments

Randy Cordoviz, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77

Mr. Heberle moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Approval of the Board of Education of Amendment #1 to Facilities Lease between Lodi Unified School District (“District”) and Meehleis Modular Buildings, Inc. (“MMB”) for the construction of the Needham Multi-Purpose Room Increment III (“Project”) located at located at 420 S. Pleasant Avenue. Lodi, CA 95240 (“Project Site”).

Item OAI-3 Staff will present information regarding the Elementary Education Summer Learning Opportunity for the summer of 2021

Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education, presented the Elementary Education Summer Learning Opportunity proposal for the summer of 2021 for Board consideration. He stated the program was created to help staff mitigate some of the academic struggles created over the last year. Mr. McGregor stated that the program would have 810 students enrolled with 54 teachers creating a 15:1 student/teacher ratio. He commented on the cost of the program with a total budget proposal of \$188,946.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Staff will present information regarding the Elementary Education Summer Learning Opportunity for the summer of 2021.

Item OAI-4 Resolution 2021-18 Learning Communities for School Success Program (LCSSP Grant)

Paul Warren, Administrative Director, Student Services/SELPA, stated in the 2016-17 school year the District received the Learning Communities for School Success Program (LCSSP) grant award in the amount of \$1.7 million for a three-year period. He commented that during that timeframe the grant provided funding for a community liaison supervisor, 13 FTE community liaisons, training, support of positive behavioral interventions and supports activities, and mentoring services provided by an outside consultant. Mr. Warren explained that when the grant award sunsetted last school year, the District reapplied but did not receive funding; however, we are now able to reapply for the LCSSP Grant. He

stated that if the application is funded, the District will enter into an agreement with the California Department of Education and will need to provide at least a 20 percent match in each year of the grant award period.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 Resolution 2021-18 Learning Communities for School Success Program (LCSSP Grant).

Item OAI-5 Resolution 2021-19 Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment for Future Building Deliveries

Mr. Kahn explained that the Board presently has \$1,000,000 stored in Fund 40 for furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FFE). He stated the delivery dates are drawing near on the three large Measure U projects – Lodi High School (66 classrooms), Tokay High School (20 classrooms), and Needham (14 classrooms). He commented that staff has no reason to believe that costs will exceed \$300 per student, but with the general escalation of prices in the economy the probability exists. Mr. Kahn explained if extra funding in excess of \$1,000,000 is required, staff will recommend use of the “Operational Assignment” in the Board’s Fund 01. He commented about the request for proposal (RSP) plan, involving a committee made up of three teachers, one custodian, one administrator, two Board Members, the LEA president, and the LUSDAA president. Mr. Kahn stated the F&P planning analyst will oversee the committee, but will not have input into the committee’s final direction and the purchasing director will be present to answer any bid law questions, but will not have input into the committee’s final direction.

Mr. Neely asked what exactly the Board is approving.

Mr. Kahn stated no amount, just the approval to move forward with the RSP.

No further comments were received.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Resolution 2021-19 Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment for Future Building Deliveries.

Item OAI-6 California School Boards Association "Board Self Evaluation" Virtual Workshop

Dr. Washer presented the California School Boards Association "Board Self Evaluation" Virtual Workshop for Board consideration.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Porter motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded to approve the Item OAI-6 California School Boards Association "Board Self Evaluation" Virtual Workshop by the following vote:

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

Motion Failed

Personnel Matters

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

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

Reports

Turner Expansion Proposal

Board tabled the Turner Expansion Proposal report item.

Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2021

Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, stated that Lodi Unified School District currently requires 230 credits for graduation, which exceeds the state minimum. He commented that due to the global COVID-19 crisis, the Board modified graduation requirements for the senior class of 2020 by reducing the requirements to 210 credits and reduced the four-year English requirement to follow the state minimum requirement of three years. Mr. Palmquist stated staff have reported a number of 2021 seniors who are at-risk of being credit deficient. He commented that any modification to the graduation requirement requires Board action.

Mr. Heberle stated he would like the modifications that were extended to the 2020 seniors be extended to the 2021 seniors.

No further comments were received.

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), thanked the student representatives and recognized it was "Read Across America Day". She stated the LEA student scholarship applications have been sent out to school sites. Ms. Orgon requested that site surveys be stopped until there is assurance that they are completely anonymous. She asked that there be reduction of waste and that sites should have more say in the ordering process of items coming to sites. Ms. Orgon asked Board to look into the decision to split up the resource specialist program positions.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports were presented.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.