



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 13, 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; Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer (via telephone)

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 Educational Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA 95240 and broadcast on YouTube.

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 Mr. Knackstedt.

Closed Session

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

Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Valarie Pugh as Middle School Vice Principal, effective 2021/2022 school year, location TBD.

Closed Session Student Matters:

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of 2020-2021 Non-Public School New Students numbers 38, 75, 94, 95, and 96.

Public Hearing

Dedication of Right Of Way and Public Easement to City of Lodi

President Freitas declared the Public Hearing "Dedication of Right Of Way and Public Easement to City of Lodi" open. No comments were received from the Board or the public. The hearing was declared closed.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Washer thanked the Lodi Fire Department for their quick action to help with a broken fire sprinkler in the Personnel Department at the JAESC. She thanked District staff who are working this summer preparing for the new school year.

Comments from the Public

Jenessa Weller, Paraeducator-Severely Handicapped, Victor Elementary School, spoke about being forced to wear a mask.

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School, spoke on staffing concerns and vacant teaching positions.

Tom Moccia, Parent, spoke about mask discipline and guidelines and requested the Board and District to support the choice to wear a mask or not.

Jim Hicks, Parent, stated his concerns about Critical Race Theory and Project 1619 and not wanting it to become a part of the Lodi USD curriculum.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), pulled Item A-2 Contracts List and Mr. Heberle pulled Item A-6 from Consent Agenda A for discussion.

- Item A-1 Warrant Report
- Item A-3 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-4 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA)
- Item A-5 2021-2022 Master Contract for Non-Public Agencies
- Item A-7 Resolution 2021-43 Declaring Acceptance and Award of Contract for Purchase of Furniture Fixtures and Equipment ("FFE")
- Item A-8 Resolution 2021-44 Authorization of Individual to Make Application for and Administer The New Alternative Fuel Vehicle Purchase Program Through the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Item A-9 Resolution 2021-46 - Intent to Convey Street Easement Deed to City of Lodi
- Item A-10 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022
- Item A-11 Ratification of Representatives and Alternate Designees to CIF Section (California Interscholastic Federation)
- Item A-12 Tabled from Board Meeting of June 15, 2020: Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 3, 2021
- Item A-13 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 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-2 Contracts List

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), questioned contract #2, Agreement with John Yarbrough, and contract #4 Agreement with Jerry Adams Management Consulting LLC.

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Mrs. Macfarlane pointed out contract #7, Agreement with Point Quest Education Inc., and the increasing amount. Discussion ensued.

No Public Comments were received.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-2 Contracts List.

Item A-6 Resolution 2021-42 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Bear Creek High School Agriculture Complex - Project No. 0886-8986

Mr. Heberle stated he pulled the item to point out the funding was from Measure L and grant money.

No Public Comments were received.

Mr. Heberle moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approved Item A-6 Resolution 2021-42 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Bear Creek High School Agriculture Complex - Project No. 0886-8986.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Item B-1 Readmission: Student # 18/19-10-61

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

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Lincoln Technical Academy Categorical II Position

Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, introduced Julie Jansen, Principal/CTE Director, who spoke about upcoming projects and growth within Lincoln Technical Academy/CTE and requested Board consideration for the added categorical II position.

The Board thanked Ms. Jansen for her hard work and dedication to the students.

No Public Comments were received.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Lincoln Technical Academy Categorical II Position.

Item OAI-2 Strategic Communication and Marketing Plan

Dr. Washer introduced Chelsea Vongehr, Public Information Officer and Grant Writer, who presented the Strategic Communication and Marketing Plan for Board consideration. Ms. Vongehr explained the intent of the strategic communication and marketing plan is to present a clear and concise framework for engaging and communicating with the Lodi Unified community. She said the plan is based on the input received from employees, families, the community, and the Board of Education. Ms. Vongehr stated it is meant to serve as a three-year strategic plan for the District. The Strategic Communication and Marketing Plan was previously presented to the Board of Education on September 15, 2020.

Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

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Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)
Jenessa Weller, Paraeducator-Severely Handicapped, Victor Elementary School
Tom Moccia, Parent

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Strategic Communication and Marketing Plan.

Item OAI-3 Resolution 2021-45 Preventing School Violence Grant

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the Preventing School Violence Grant for Board consideration via teleconference. He explained the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Preventing School Violence Grant offers an opportunity to apply for up to \$1 million in funding to improve efforts to reduce violent crime in and around schools. He explained if Lodi USD is selected, the District will enter into an agreement with the federal government to carry out the project.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Resolution 2021-45 Preventing School Violence Grant.

Item OAI-4 New and Proposed Board Policy Revisions Related to Charter School Administration

Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education, presented new and proposed Board policy revisions related to charter school administration for Board consideration.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to waive the second reading of the new and proposed Board policy revisions related to charter school administration.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 New and Proposed Board Policy Revisions Related to Charter School Administration.

Personnel Matters

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

Mr. Porter asked how many teachers will be on emergency credentials during the 2021-22 school year.

Dr. Washer responded stating the average every year is over a hundred but believed approximately 130 teachers will be on emergency credentials during the 2021-22 school year.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)
Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

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

Reports

State Updates: AB 104 (student retention, pass/no pass grades, graduation requirement exemption); State Budget Trailer Bill Highlights; and Updates to CDPH School Industry Guidance (if available)

Superintendent Washer spoke about the executive summary which covered the three main topics in the report: (1) AB 104; (2) Budget Trailer Bill Highlights; (3) Health/Safety Requirements and Guidelines.

Mr. Neely stated he would support making a mask policy that would allow kids not to wear a mask.

Mr. Heberle stated he supported making them optional.

Mr. Neely asked Ms. Orgon, what the overall opinion was on the mask guidelines within LEA.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Tom Moccia, Parent

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

Andrea Moccia, Parent

Jenessa Weller, Paraeducator-Severely Handicapped, Victor Elementary School

Henderson Growth and Focus

Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, spoke briefly about Henderson school and requested feedback to help guide the growth process. He introduced Dominee Muller-Kimball, Principal, Henderson & Independence School, who spoke about adding a career technical education program at the middle school level to provide student engagement through relevant, real-world connections to industry and career.

The Board expressed thanks to Mr. Palmquist and Dr. Muller-Kimball for her vision and passion towards the students.

Mr. Nava stated he really liked the concept of shadowing at the District's Maintenance and Operations department.

Mr. Neely commented that Henderson school site needs a lot of structural and site remodeling. He requested to have future updates and liked the idea of forming a steering committee.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Andrea Moccia, Parent

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment, presented the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 covering the ESSER III funding allocation in the amount of \$71,533,517. He spoke about the allowable uses of the funding and the 20% requirement. He explained that not less than 20 percent of such funds need to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to

students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the Coronavirus on the student subgroups. Dr. Sahli described the avenues of the relief funding that exceeded \$130 million.

Mr. Neely stated he is interested in seeing the final plan and thanked Dr. Sahli for his work.

Mr. Nava requested the meetings for stakeholders' input should be held in-person, not virtually.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School

Tom Moccia, Parent

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke about summer school and celebrated student progress during summer school. She commented on an Inclusion Program that was brought to the Board about three years ago and hopes the program can expand. Ms. Orgon stated that preschool enrollment has dropped. She pointed out the continual need for more water bottle filling and hand washing stations and custodial staff on sites.

Comments from Board Members

No further Board comments were given.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer thanked the Board for encouraging innovative and creativity ideas, and for supporting new concepts. She clarified that a pilot program for exit interviews has been in-place.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports were presented.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board