



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**May 4, 2021**  
**Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

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**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

**Student Representatives:** Arriana Galvan, Tokay High School, and Jacksery Apolonio-Lopez, Senior Class President, Lodi High School, (subbing for William Machado) were present.

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

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. at the James Areida Educational Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA 95240 and via YouTube and GoToWebinar.

**Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

Christina Dougherty, Teacher, Lawrence Elementary School, spoke about the shortage of substitute teachers and offering a competitive wage for all employee groups.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), thanked the Board for opening the meetings to in-person attendance and spoke about upcoming negotiations, middle school department chair compensation, adding preschool teachers to the salary schedule, and settling the LEA 2019/20 contract.

**Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

**Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m. and attendance was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Senior Class President, Lodi High School, Jacksery Apolonio-Lopez.

**Closed Session**

President Freitas reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

**Moment of Silence**

President Freitas held a moment of silence for Sovannary Choeun, 10th grade student in the Horizon Program at Plaza Robles High School, who passed away April 30, 2021.

**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Washer commented on the recent Professional Learning Community visit at Erma B. Reese Elementary School. She acknowledged and thanked the teachers for their incredible work juggling and incorporating the in-person students and Distance Learning students simultaneously during

lessons. Dr. Washer clarified that the current Distance Learning option is only available for the 2020/2021 school year. She stated the remote options for the 2021/2022 school year are Digital Academy; Independence School; and Valley Robotics Academy.

## **Board Recognitions**

### **Regional Science Bowl Competition Award Winners**

Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, introduced Erik Sandstrom, Principal, Tokay High, who spoke briefly about the Science Bowl Team and then introduced Susan Heberle, Tokay High Science Bowl Coach, who spoke about the regional competition and handed out certificates to the student awardees.

### **Elementary Math Tournament Recognition**

Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education, introduced Mary Vallerga-Hood, Gifted and Talented Education Coach, who acknowledged the teachers that helped with the tournament and spoke about the students involved and the winners of the competition.

### **2021-2022 Teacher of the Year**

Amber Jaeger, Director of Personnel, introduced Cassandra Iwamiya, Principal, Lodi Middle School who recognized and honored Lodi Middle School instructor, Tarina Taylor, as the 2021-2022 Lodi USD Teacher of the Year.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of Day of the Teacher - May 12, 2021**

Mrs. Macfarlane read the proclamation in recognition of Day of the Teacher.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of School Nutrition Employee Week - May 3-7, 2021**

Mr. Porter read the proclamation in recognition of School Nutrition Employee Week.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of Classified School Employee Week - May 16-22, 2021**

Mr. Nava read the proclamation in recognition of Classified School Employee Week.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of School Principals' Day - May 1, 2021**

Mr. Neely read the proclamation in recognition of School Principals' Day.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of National School Nurse Day - May 12, 2021**

Mr. Heberle read the proclamation in recognition of National School Nurse Day.

### **Proclamation and Recognition of National Speech and Language Pathologist Day - May 18, 2021**

Mr. Knackstedt read the proclamation in recognition of National Speech and Language Pathologist Day.

### **On behalf of the Lodi Unified Board of Education, President Freitas will acknowledge the 2020-2021 Student Representatives to the Board of Education for their year of service**

President Freitas recognized Arriana Galvan, Tokay High School, Student Representative for her year of service to the Lodi Unified School District Board of Education.

### **Comments from Student Representatives**

Arriana Galvan, Tokay High School, and Jacksery Apolonio-Lopez, Senior Class President, Lodi High School, (subbing for William Machado), presented reports from their respective schools.

President Freitas dismissed the student representatives. Ms. Apolonio-Lopez left the meeting and Ms. Galvan stayed.

### **Comments from the Public**

Tom Roehrich, Custodian, Live Oak Elementary, spoke about the need for more custodians and offering a competitive wage to classified employees.

Maria Mack, Vice Principal, Delta Sierra Middle School, stated she agreed with the decision to bring students back to campus. Ms. Mack spoke about offering summer school for middle school students and needing a second full-time vice principal on site.

Kimberly Freeberg, Teacher, Lockeford School, spoke about settling the 2019/20 LEA contract by offering cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), no-tell days, and a fair settlement.

Jeanine Bazaldua, Bus Driver, Transportation, spoke about Transportation Department staffing logistics, difficulties faced by employees during COVID-19, and offering a COLA to help retain employees.

Pam Payne, Developing Area Program Administrator, Cultural Homestay International, Non-Profit Educational Exchange Program, spoke about the District approving the foreign exchange student program for the upcoming school year.

Jakob Morse, Student, Lodi High School, spoke about COVID-19 protocols for the graduation ceremonies.

### **Consent Agenda A, Routine Business**

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

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-3 Credential Waiver Application and Approval
- Item A-4 Resolution 2021-25 Rejection of Bids for the Bear Creek High and Delta Sierra Middle Schools Paving and Parking Lot Project No. 0949-8249 & 0941-8241
- Item A-5 Resolution 2021-26 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Fire Alarm Replacement Project at Beckman Elementary School No. 0910-8210
- Item A-7 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2021
- Item A-8 Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 27, 2021

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

The student preferential vote was aye.

## **Items Pulled From Consent Agenda A**

### **Item A-2 Contracts List**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke about the agreement with Jerry Adams Management Consulting, LLC, and asked how the services are being evaluated and if District staff could be conducting these services.

No Board comments were received.

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

The student preferential vote was aye.

### **Item A-6 Approval of Construction Project Change Order 1 - Needham Elementary School Increment 1 Site Work Project Number 0917-8217-4**

Mr. Neely commented on the requested large change order.

Mr. Kahn stated that the increase was brought on from a location change for the water connection to the school site.

#### **Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-6 Approval of Construction Project Change Order 1 - Needham Elementary School Increment 1 Site Work Project Number 0917-8217-4.

The Board took a short break and Student Representative, Ms. Galvan left.

## **Other Action Items**

### **Item OAI-1 Resolution 2021-27 Authorizing the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Joint Escrow Instructions - Site I in Westlake Village**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the purchase and sale agreement with the joint escrow instructions for Site I in Westlake Village for Board consideration.

Mr. Neely asked for clarification on the funds to pay for the project.

Mr. Kahn stated that all developer fees will be paid for out of Fund 25.

Discussion ensued.

No Public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Resolution 2021-27 Authorizing the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Joint Escrow Instructions - Site I in Westlake Village.

### **Item OAI-2 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Education Association**

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Education Association for Board consideration.

Mr. Neely stated that this should be the start of recognizing all employee groups.

#### **Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Educational Association.

### **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**

#### **Update, Lodi USD Response to the Health Pandemic Including the Implementation of In-Person Instruction and Plans for Summer School**

Superintendent Washer gave a brief update on the county tier status as of April 13, 2021, showing COVID-19 Case Rate at 8.1; Adjusted Case Rate at 7.7; Positivity Rate at 2.9%; and Health Equity Rate at 3.8%, keeping the county in the Red Tier. She introduced Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education; Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education; and Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, Business Services, who each gave an update on the full in-person start and return to school from their respective departments. Dr. Washer introduced Jose Maciel, Categorical Program Manager, Educational Support Services, to discuss summer school plans. He stated 36 teachers have been selected so far, with 4 positions left to be filled and the program will run from June 14 through July 2, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Dr. Washer introduced Mr. Palmquist to give an update on high school graduations along with the corresponding COVID-19 protocols.

Mr. Porter asked if a survey was given about summer school and if AM/PM, in-person summer school classes were considered. He stated he would like to see both in-person and Distance Learning offered for summer school.

Mr. Neely asked how elementary summer school will be structured and stated he would like the District to try and reach more students and place more emphasis on Title 1 schools.

Mr. Nava stated he would like to see summer school in-person.

Discussion ensued.

#### **Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

### **Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Actions and Services**

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment, briefly went over the LCAP actions and services. He described the color coding on the LCAP Goals and Actions attachment and stated it included the additional requested information on staffing and related costs. Dr. Sahli commented that any changes or ideas the Board would like to discuss would be for the 2022/2023 school year.

No Board or public comments were received.

### **Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Stakeholder Input**

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment, briefly summarized the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant.

No Board comments were received.

### **Public Comments**

Mira Lowery, Paraeducator, Julia Morgan Elementary School

## **Communications**

### **Comments from Employee Group Representatives**

Dean Blount, President, Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA), thanked the Board for the proclamations/recognitions and spoke about the LPPA scholarship applications and the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), thanked Board for the proclamations/recognitions and spoke about the High Five for Teachers 5K that raised \$1,700 for the Giving Opportunities to Kids Foundation. Ms. Orgon commented on National Day of the Teacher. She recognized and thanked teachers and all employee groups for their hard work over the last year.

Kyle Harvey, Labor Relations Representative, California School Employees Association, spoke about an AB 1200 report, summer school, support for on-site learning, competitive wages, restructuring the contractual agreement/salary schedule, and resignations within CSEA.

### **Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Porter recognized that Sunday is Mother's Day.

Mr. Neely spoke about the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program that offers a \$50 credit towards broadband services to help low-income households stay connected.

Mr. Nava congratulated Lodi High School Girls' Golf Team on their recent win and Brad Reeves, a Lodi High School graduate, who helped University of Arizona win the Pack-12 Men's Golf Championship.

No further Board comments were given.

### **Comments from the Superintendent**

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

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### **Board Advisory Committee Reports**

Mr. Knackstedt and Mr. Nava presented a brief report on the Lodi USD/Stockton City Council 2x2 meeting that was held on April 21, 2021.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

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Clerk of the Board

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President of the Board