



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**
February 7, 2023
Closed Session 6:00 p.m. / Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Associate Superintendent; Dr. Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent; and Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer

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

Michelle Ono, Speech Language Pathologist (SLP), spoke about ongoing SLP shortages and upcoming Lodi Pupil Personnel Association negotiations.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Board Member Susan Macfarlane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

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

Student Matters

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Non-Public School Placement (Changes) numbers 43 and 115.

Conference with Legal Counsel

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to reject claim #616507 as follows:

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Ayes: | Macfarlane, Porter | |
| Noes: | Alexander, Knackstedt, Nava, Stroh | |
| Abstain: | none | |
| Absent: | none | Motion failed |

Recognitions

Recognition of Dr. Cindy Brownell and Ms. Aimee Ramsower, as they both have been acknowledged as National Board Certified Teachers

Proclamation and Recognition of National School Counseling Week, February 6-10, 2023

Superintendent's Report

Associate Superintendent Young announced the Tokay High FFA Grapevine Pruning, and Fruit Tree Pruning Teams competed at the State Finals and Field Day hosted by Fresno State on February 4. The Grapevine Pruning team was awarded as the Reserve State Champions Team and the Fruit Tree Pruning team took 4th place. Mr. Young reported that the M&O team did a great job repairing classrooms from the recent flooding at Houston and Joe Serna Jr. Charter schools, he added that students are back in the classrooms with new floors and walls. Mr. Young announced that Middle College High School won Top Overall School at the 42nd Annual San Joaquin County Academic Decathlon Championship and a McNair High School student and a Middle College High School student both won a University of the Pacific scholarship. He announced that the Lodi High Cheer Team won silver at the JAMZ Nationals, in Las Vegas. Mr. Young highlighted the cutting boards that students made for Board Members, as an example of the students' learning partnership with Weber Cabinets. He announced that GOT Kids Crab Feed tickets are going quickly. He introduced Janette Jimenez, Administrative Secretary, for the Superintendent's Office, who was in attendance for Board meeting training purposes.

Comments from Student Representatives

Mr. Joseph Gardea, Junior Class President at McNair High School, subbed for Student Representative Perri Perez. Mr. Gardea and Ms. Alyssa Lussier, Tokay High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Comments from the Public

Maria Smith, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School, voiced concerns about Lodi USD no longer offering the bring your own device Wi-Fi connection, as she believes that not having the connection is a safety concern, especially during lockdown situations. She commented about skunks homing themselves under portable classrooms at John Muir and the associated issues brought about by the animals.

Reports

Houston School Enrollment Update and Future Options

Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, commented on the Houston School decline in enrollment, stating that all classrooms are now combo classes. He stated that the 2023-2024 enrollment is projected to be 82 students in grades K-6 and 39 students in grades 7-8. He explained the funding analysis, stating the numbers will not get any better. He proposed three different options for Houston School: A) Starting with the 2023-2024 school year, 7th and 8th grade classes at Houston are closed and students are enrolled at Millswood on an intra-district agreement (IDA) or to Lockeford, if requested. K-6 students remain at Houston for 2023-2024. Starting with the 2024-2025 school year all students are enrolled at Victor, or parents can request an IDA to another school; B) Starting with the 2023-2024 school year, no students are enrolled at Houston, and all are enrolled at Millswood, Lockeford, Victor, or Lawrence schools (closest elementary school); and C) No changes.

Mr. Porter questioned if a plan is in place in the event students and teachers start to leave Houston before the suggested dates in options A or B.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Knackstedt commented on the unpleasant nature of the situation; however, he believes it is good to be eliminating combo classes. He would like staff to look into fixing site issues at Victor School prior to accommodating the possibility of additional students.

Mrs. Alexander spoke about preparing students for high school and is worried that it is not happening in the current classroom situation. She would like staff to investigate why students are being denied enrollment at Houston School, in addition to looking into possible site safety issues at Victor School.

Mrs. Macfarlane spoke about being fiscally responsible as a Board and believes a change must happen. She would like staff to return with a more detailed plan after communicating with the community, parents, and school site staff.

Mr. Nava spoke about how difficult change is and asked if it was a possibility for Houston students to integrate into Joe Serna.

Mr. Young stated that Joe Serna Jr. Charter is a dual immersion program and conducts a lottery to be considered for enrollment, so it would be a challenge for a student to transfer in from another program.

The Board gave direction to move forward with preparing a detailed plan that incorporates input from parents, community, and site staff.

Public Comments

Lisa Graci, Parent, Houston School
Crystal Flarherty, Parent, Houston School
Aimee Ramsower, Teacher, Beckman Elementary
Jen Cassel, Teacher, Tokay High School
Elizabeth Tinajero, Parent, Victor School
Ali Mozeb, Community Member
Aaron Lange, Parent, Joe Serna Jr. Charter School
Ky-Lee Starks, Parent, Houston School
Mark Durnell, Community Member
Gumela Mozeb, Long-Term Substitute, Houston School

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, commented on Item A-6 Lodi Education Association Proposal for a Successor Agreement for the 2023-24 Year, stating that LEA hopes that negotiation interactions are fruitful.

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77, commented on Item A-5 Ratification of the Reprographic Technician/Lead Reprographic Technician Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association, thanking Board for the reclassification.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-3 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA)
- Item A-4 Ratification of the Juneteenth Holiday Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association
- Item A-5 Ratification of the Reprographic Technician/Lead Reprographic Technician Memorandum of Understanding with California School Employees Association
- Item A-6 Lodi Education Association Proposal for a Successor Agreement for the 2023-24 Year
- Item A-7 Approval of Revised Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement - John Muir School and Ellerth Larson Elementary School Change Order Paving Project No. 0918-8218 and 0922-8222
- Item A-8 Resolution 2023-15 Authorizing Certain Employees to Sign Orders Drawn on School District Funds

- Item A-9 Resolution 2023-16 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Lakewood Elementary School Roofing Project 0921-8221 and 8150-5830-4
- Item A-10 Resolution 2023-17 Filing Revised Notice of Completion- John Muir and Ellerth Larson Schools Paving and Parking Lot Project No. (0918-8218 and 0922-8222)
- Item A-12 Declaration and Approval of Sale of Obsolete and/or Surplus Equipment
- Item A-13 Settlement Agreement With LPA, Inc. for Replacement of Lift Station at Tokay High School, Measure U
- Item A-14 Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 10, 2023
- Item A-15 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2023
- Item A-16 Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 30, 2023

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

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

Item A-2 Contracts List

Board Member Stroh questioned the agreement with Terracon Consultants Inc. and asked if the District has already done seismic testing.

Mr. Kahn stated that some soil testing has been completed but this additional seismic testing is a requirement.

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

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-11 Approval of 2021-2022 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) Published During 2022-2023

Board Member Porter requested that in the future this item be presented under Other Action Items so it can be discussed in detail. Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-11 Approval of 2021-2022 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) Published During 2022-2023.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 22/23-7-52
- Item B-2 Revoke Suspended Expulsion: Student # 22/23-9-09

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

Personnel Matters

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

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

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi, Chapter #77, spoke about recent CSEA bargaining and stated if the District only offers the Cost-of-Living Adjustment, it will not fix the issues with the salary schedule.

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, thanked the Board for recognizing the National Board Certified Teachers. She made comments regarding teacher resignations, the lack of paraeducators in classrooms, and suggested that schools plan their own speakers for the District Kindness Challenge.

Comments from the Board

Mr. Porter spoke about attending the Kindness Challenge Assembly at Tokay High School and what a great experience he had visiting the school site.

Mr. Stroh spoke about visiting a few different elementary school sites.

Mr. Knackstedt asked about the Bear Creek High School Speech and Debate Team not being offered at the school site and is excited for the opportunity for girl's flag football.

Ms. Alexander spoke about her tour and visit at Tokay High School and congratulated the newly National Board Certified teachers.

Mr. Nava congratulated and named students who received athletic scholarships. He spoke of attending one of the etiquette luncheons with Joe Serna Jr. Charter students at the LangeTwins Winery and what a wonderful event it is. Mr. Nava requested information on early start time vs absenteeism.

Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Young had no further comments.

Board Member Advisory Reports

Mr. Nava attended a City of Stockton Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and reported that all parks in Stockton are currently closed because of safety hazards due to tree damages from recent storms.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board