



**Board Members Present:** Mr. Gary Knackstedt, President; Dr. Rommel Bal, Vice-President; Ms. Sherry Alexander, Clerk; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane; Mr. Joe Nava (teleconference); Mr. Courtney Porter; and Mr. Jeff Stroh

**Administrative Staff:** Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, Education Services; Dr. Allen Dosty, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; and Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer

**Student Representative:** Ms. Jaesa Del Prato, Bear Creek High School; Mr. Lucas Goulart, Lodi High School; and Ms. Hajra Shaheen Ahmad, Middle College High School

**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

No comments were made prior to Closed Session.

### Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

### Reconvene Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. Attendance was recorded, and Student Representative Hajra Shaheen Ahmad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Closed Session

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

#### Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Dr. Bal motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to approve Case: OAH 2023070422 (referred to as SPE2024-02) as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, and Stroh	
Noes:	Porter	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	None	Motion Carried

#### Student Matters

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve placement of non-public school students (new) #32, #41, and #107.

### Recognition

#### 2024-2025 Lodi Unified School District - School Counselor of the Year

Amber Jaeger, Director, Personnel, introduced Dr. Aisha Brice, Coordinator, Positive School Climate, who presented the School Counselor of the Year award to Angela Garcia, School Counselor.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Young spoke about Chris Hall, Football Coach, McNair High School, who was recently recognized on the Jennifer Hudson Talk Show for his generosity to students and his active community involvement. Mrs. Hudson surprised Mr. Hall and his wife with tickets to the Superbowl in Las Vegas. Superintendent Young announced Saturday, February 24 is the NorCal Science and Technology Festival, as well as the GOT Kids Crab Feed.

## **Comments from Student Representatives**

Ms. Jaesa Del Prato, Bear Creek High School; Mr. Lucas Goulart, Lodi High School; and Ms. Hajra Shaheen Ahmad, Middle College High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

## **Comments from Employee Group Representatives**

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi Chapter #77, commented on classified employees sending emails to Board, and hopes that they take time to read and respond. She spoke about the ending fund balance and her frustrations during bargaining.

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke about the 23/24 budget and the carry over funding. She stated it is not being spent correctly and invited Board to come to the next bargaining session.

## **Comments from the Public**

Joseph Gardea, Student Representative, McNair High School, spoke about being grateful to have the power back on at McNair. He voiced his concern that all the students didn't get to speak at the last Board meeting.

Becky Freeman, Teacher, Tokay High School, announced it is National FFA Week and invited Board to come to the petting zoo. She spoke about the difficulty of obtaining professional growth units and the denial she recently received.

Bill Yates, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary School, spoke about working as a Special Education teacher and about considering going to Lincoln Unified because he would make 20k more a year. He would like the Board and staff to create a plan to recruit and retain teachers.

Kelly Hansston, Julia Morgan Elementary School, suggested that staff form a committee to approve professional growth. She spoke about getting funds for an art program, and believes in STEAM, not STEM. She requested Board to pick one item from bargaining to say yes to.

## **Public Comments on Consent Agenda A**

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, commented on Item A-1. She thanked the Board and staff for approving the live streaming services of graduation ceremonies.

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

Mr. Porter pulled Item A-8

Item A-1 Contracts List (Mr. Kahn)

Item A-2 Warrant Report (Mr. Kahn)

Item A-3 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) (Mr. Kahn)

Item A-4 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Dr. Dosty)

Item A-5 Resolution 2024-12 Rejection of Bids for the Phase 2 Flooring Replacement at Multiple School Sites, Project No. 3213-4416-7 (Mr. Kahn)

- Item A-6 Resolution 2024-13 Piggyback Contract - A-Z Bus Sales (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-7 Resolution 2024-14 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Millswood Portable Relocation Project No. 0855-8155 (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-9 Resolution 2024-16 Finding that Board Member Joe Nava was Absent from the Regular Board Meetings of January 16 and February 6, 2024 Due to Illness (Mr. Young)
- Item A-10 Lodi High School Emergency Repairs PBK Proposal (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-11 Modernization Proposal for Davis Elementary School (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-12 Authorization to Use Sole Source Provider - GoTo (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-13 Authorization to Use Sole Source Provider - Lego Education (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-14 Authorization to Use Sole Source Provider - Aeries Software (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-15 Authorization to Use Sole Source Provider - Rosetta Stone (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-16 Proposed Board Policy and Rule 1113 District and School Websites (Mr. Young)
- Item A-17 Proposed Revisions to Board 3513.3 Tobacco-Free Schools; Board Policy 3514 Environmental Safety; Board Policy 3514.1 Hazardous Substances; Board Policy 3515.2 Disruptions; Board Policy 3515.5 Sex Offender Information; Board Policy 3515.21 Unmanned Aircraft Systems/Drones; Board Policy 3516 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan; Board Policy 3516.1 Fire Drills and Fires; Board Policy 3516.5 Emergency Schedules; Board Policy 3517 Building Security; Board Policy 3530 Risk Management/Insurance (Mr. Kahn)
- Item A-18 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2024 (Mr. Young)

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously 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-8 Resolution 2024-15 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the JAESC Portable Relocation Project No. 0825-8425-2**

Mr. Porter questioned why the portables are needing to be moved.

Mr. Kahn stated it is for additional meeting space or possibly for a department relocation.

Mr. Stroh moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-8 Resolution 2024-15 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the JAESC Portable Relocation Project No. 0825-8425-2.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Public Comments on Consent Agenda B**

No comments were received for Consent Agenda B.

### **Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases**

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-8-53
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-7-54

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

## **Other Action Items**

### **Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logos for Ansel Adams and Creekside Elementary Schools**

Mr. Young presented the primary logos for Ansel Adams and Creekside elementary schools for Board consideration.

Michael Coughlin, Principal, Ansel Adams, expressed his excitement for the new logo.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve Item OAI-1 Approval of Primary Logos for Ansel Adams and Creekside Elementary Schools.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Item OAI-2 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA)**

Mr. Kahn presented the AB1200 documents for the LUSDAA group for Board consideration.

Mr. Porter expressed his concern and discussion ensued.

#### **Public Comments**

Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi Chapter #77

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to table Item OAI-2 AB1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA).

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimous aye to table Item OAI-2.

### **Item OAI-3 Improvement to the Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA) Salary Schedule to Reflect Salary Improvement in Alignment with the District's Proposal to other Employee Groups for the 2023/2024 School Year**

OAI-2 was tabled, thus Board voted to table Item OAI-3 as well.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to table Item OAI-3 Improvement to the Lodi Unified School District Administrators Association (LUSDAA) Salary Schedule to Reflect Salary Improvement in Alignment with the District's Proposal to other Employee Groups for the 2023/2024 School Year.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimous aye to table Item OAI-3.

### **Item OAI-4 2024 Resolution 2024-17 Reduction of Administrative Staff**

Mr. Dosty presented the resolution to authorize the position of Continuation High School Principal be reduced by ten (10) workdays at the end of the 2023/2024 school year for the succeeding 2024/2025 school year, with salary to reflect the reduction in workdays.

Mrs. Macfarlane clarified that this will not affect teachers, only the administration.

Discussion ensued.

**Public Comments**

Tim Stutz, Teacher, Liberty High School  
Kelly Hansston, Julia Morgan Elementary School  
Shannon Hagan, Teacher, McNair High School  
Nesie Nishimura, Teacher, Lincoln Technical Academy

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to approve Resolution 2024-17 Reduction of Administrative Staff as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, and Stroh	
Noes:	Porter	
Abstain:	None	
Absent:	None	Motion Carried

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item OAI-5 Annual Audit Report Ending June 30, 2023**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the annual audit report for Board consideration. He explained the audit report showed no findings and that the delay in presenting to Board was due to the California Department of Education being delayed in returning the J13 waiver.

**Public Comments**

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to unanimously approve Item OAI-5 Annual Audit Report Ending June 30, 2023.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item OAI-6 Proposed Reorganization of the Business Services Department**

Superintendent Young presented the proposed reorganization of the Business Services Department for Board consideration.

Mr. Porter stated there must be a better way and felt that other staff could take on more work. He commented on having the administrative staff evaluated for efficiency.

Discussion ensued.

**Public Comments**

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School  
Janice Vanderlans, Secretary, Leroy Nichols Elementary School  
Desiree Wise, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi Chapter #77  
Anne Swehla Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School  
Cris Beach, Cafeteria Manager, Clairmont Elementary School  
Ashley Daniel, Teacher, Parklane Elementary School  
Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Dr. Bal seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-6 Proposed Reorganization of the Business Services Department, as follows:

Ayes: Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava

Noes: Alexander, Porter, Stroh

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously no.

## Reports

### **Required School Safety Plans per California Education Code Sections 32280-32288 are Updated to Meet Compliance Requirements and Submitted for Board Review**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the proposed revisions to Board for review.

Dr. Bal thanked Mr. Kahn and staff for all the hard work.

#### Public Comments

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Kelly Hansston, Julia Morgan Elementary School

Joseph Gardea, Student Representative, McNair High School

### **2023 California School Dashboard Results**

Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, introduced Uve Dahmen, Coordinator, Assessment Research & Evaluation, who presented the 2023 California School Dashboard results.

Mr. Knackstedt asked if there is a plan in place to create a positive change in graduation rate and absenteeism.

Discussion ensued.

#### Public Comments

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Daniel Tachella, Parent

Lori Celiz, Teacher, Ansel Adams Elementary School

Christina Soria, Teacher, Borchardt Elementary School

### **Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials (AMIM) Discretionary Block Grant**

Robert Sahli, Associate Superintendent, introduced Jennifer Huiras, Program Coordinator, Educational Support Services, who presented the purpose and parameters behind the AMIM Discretionary Block Grant.

No Board or public comments were given.

**Proposed Revisions to Board Policy and Rule 3250 Transportation and Fees; Board Policy 3541 Student Transportation; Board Policy 3541.1 Other Uses of Buses and Equipment; Board Policy and Rule 3541.2 Transportation for Pupils with Disabilities; Board Policy 3541.3 Operation of Buses and Equipment; Board 3541.4 Acquisition and Maintenance of Buses, Vehicles and Equipment; Board Policy, Rule and Exhibit 3541.6 Transportation of Pupils Other Than Home-To-School; Board Rule 3542 School Bus Drivers; Board Policy and Rule 3543 Transportation Safety and Emergencies; Board Policy and Rule 3543.1 Inclement Weather and Adverse Driving Conditions; Board Policy and Rule**

**3550 Food Service Child Nutrition Program; Board Policy and Rule 3551 Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund; Board Policy and Rule 3553 Free and Reduced Price Meals; Board Policy and Rule 3554 Other Food Sales; Board Policy, Rule and Exhibit 3555 Nutrition Program Compliance**  
Mr. Kahn presented the proposed revisions to Board Policy and Rules for review.

Mrs. Macfarlane clarified that these revisions are technical.

### **Board Member Advisory Committee Reports**

No reports were given.

### **Comments from the Board**

Ms. Alexander shared she is excited to attend the upcoming NorCal Science Festival.

Mrs. Macfarlane spoke about the public comments and sometimes wonders where the information is coming from, and noted her concern it is from a sole source without additional research from different resources.

Dr. Bal read names from heartfelt messages she received and expressed her gratitude. She stated her goal is long-term stability for everyone.

Mr. Porter stated he liked the Valentine notes he received, and that trust is important. He commented on sitting in on a CSEA bargaining session.

Mr. Stroh commented on his positive experience while visiting Needham West.

Mr. Nava stated he is looking forward to attending the next Board meeting in-person.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

  
Clerk of the Board

  
President of the Board