



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
February 21, 2023  
Closed Session 6:30 p.m. / Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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**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 6:30 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**

Steven Marsden, School Nurse, spoke about upcoming Lodi Pupil Personnel Association negotiations and areas of improvement to the contract needed for school nurses.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

### **Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting reconvened at 7:02 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:

#### **Personnel Matters**

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Preeti Raheja as Interim Elementary Principal, Manlio Silva Elementary, start date to be determined.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Allen Dosty as Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, start date to be determined.

#### **Conference with Legal Counsel**

Mr. Knackstedt motioned, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve claim #616507 as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Knackstedt, Nava, Stroh
Noes:	Macfarlane, Porter
Abstain:	none
Absent:	none

Motion carried

## **Spotlight**

### **Career Technical Education and Adult Education Programs**

Julie Jansen, Principal, Lincoln Technical Academy/Lodi Adult School, shared a presentation, which included a promotional video featuring highlights of the District's Career Technical Education program.

## **Public Hearing**

### **Lodi Education Association Proposal for a Successor Agreement for the 2023-24 Year**

President Nava declared the public hearing " Lodi Education Association Proposal for a Successor Agreement for the 2023-24 Year" open.

No Board or public comments were received. The public hearing was declared closed.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Associate Superintendent Young spoke about the Great Kindness Challenge week that began years ago as an elementary event and has now spread to include all grade levels. During this week it was documented that students and staff completed 140,746 acts of kindness and donated 2,200 pounds of coffee to our men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces. He personally thanked Oakwood Principal, Cassie Sotello and Ed. Services Director, Susan Petersen, who championed to have this become a district-wide event. Mr. Young shared that he is looking forward to attending the International Rally hosted by Bear Creek High School on Friday evening. He announced that on Thursday, February 23, the Board will conduct a Special Board Meeting to interview the five candidates for the vacancy in Area 6. He also shared that he will be attending the Annual GOT Kids Crab Feed on Saturday evening.

## **Comments from Student Representatives**

Ms. Jaesa Del Prato, Bear Creek High School and Ms. McKenna Anderson, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

## **Comments from the Public**

George Neely, Community Member, spoke about the importance of filling the Board vacancy in Area 6. He stated that the district is very diverse, and the Board needs to reflect this diversity. He mentioned that the Board is currently comprised of six members, of which five are retired teachers. He stated the Board should strive to appoint a candidate from a background of business member, parents, and community members.

Lisa Graci, Parent, Houston School, noted that Board should be aware, prior to the upcoming vote on Houston School, that five new students are being enrolled this week at Houston School and there are 17 new families with children who have recently moved into the Houston School attendance area. She asked that Board investigate why students are not being allowed to enroll at Houston School before closing the school due to declining enrollment.

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

No comments from the public were received for items on Consent Agenda A. Board Member Porter asked to remove Item A-1 and Associate Superintendent Young asked to removed Item A-7.

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

- Item A-2 Warrant Report
- Item A-3 Contracts List
- Item A-4 Purchase Order Detail Report

- Item A-5 Resolution 2023-18 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the McNair High School Lighting Panel Upgrade, Project No. 8150-5830-5
- Item A-6 Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee Appointment - Ron Heberle

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-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget**

Mr. Porter questioned the Books and Supplies section and asked if the total sum was for this year.

Mr. Kahn explained that the amount of money in this category (4000 code) has built up and contains COVID allocations. Mr. Porter asked if the money in code 4000 could be distributed to other codes. Mr. Kahn stated that it could not, as most is restricted COVID funds. Mr. Kahn explained what items and programs this money could be used for and the expiration dates for the funds to be expended. Mr. Kahn noted the Board has already approved many of the expenditures in this code. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Item A-7 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023**

Mr. Young pulled Item A-7 due to a technical correction and asked Board to approve the minutes pending a correction to the student representative names.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-7 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023, with corrections.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 22/23-10-55
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 22/23-12-56
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 22/23-12-57
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student # 22/23-7-58

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

## **Other Action Items**

**Item OAI-1 Approval of the Primary Administrative and Primary Mascot Logos for Vinewood Elementary and Lodi Middle Schools, and Primary Administrative, Primary Athletics, and Secondary Athletics for Bear Creek High School**

Mr. Young presented the logos from the three schools for Board consideration. He noted that staff from Lodi Middle and Bear Creek High School were present if Board had any questions related to the process for logo selection at these school sites.

Mr. Knackstedt asked if the athletic directors were involved in the process and if the logos had changed dramatically from what it has been. Principal, Dr. Allen Dosty, was available to add insight on the process involving students and community members. Dr. Dosty noted that this process will allow the school site to streamline the number of current logos to the ones being considered.

Mr. Porter asked what costs will be incurred from switching the logos. Discussion ensued.

Student Representative Del Prato noted her approval of a unifying symbol for their school.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Approval of the Primary Administrative and Primary Mascot Logos for Vinewood Elementary and Lodi Middle Schools, and Primary Administrative, Primary Athletics, and Secondary Athletics for Bear Creek High School.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item OAI-2 Approval of 2021-2022 Development Fee Report (Montieth)**

Leonard Kahn presented the annual report and explained some of the highlights contained therein. Mr. Kahn made himself available for questions.

No comments from Board or public were received.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Approval of 2021-2022 Development Fee Report (Montieth).

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item OAI-3 Job Description Revision for Budget Analyst (Confidential)**

Mr. Kahn presented the job description revision for this confidential position. He indicated that the redlines were related to attendance reporting duties that are no longer performed by this position.

No comments from Board or public were received.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Job Description Revision for Budget Analyst (Confidential).

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item OAI-4 2023 California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election**

Mr. Young presented the process to consider up to two members to go forward to the CSBA delegate assembly election.

Public Comments

George Neely, Community Member

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Susan Macfarlane to be added for consideration to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to approve David Pombo to be added for consideration to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election, as follows:

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

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Porter moved, to approve Ashley Jones to be added for consideration to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted to approve Kathy Howe to be added for consideration to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election, as follows:

Ayes:	Alexander, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Stroh	
Noes:	Nava, Porter	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	none	Motion carried

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Item OAI-5 Seek Direction to Proceed with HVAC and Cal Shape Projects**

Mr. Kahn noted this is not an action item, staff is seeking direction, as Board has previously approved the Superintendent to proceed with this work under 2023-09. He presented a list of the proposed sites and work to be done. He noted this money needs to be budgeted, although the District will seek reimbursement for the expenditures. Discussion ensued.

The Board provided consensus for staff to proceed.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

### **Personnel Matters**

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

#### Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve Personnel Matters, as follows:

Ayes:	Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Stroh	
Noes:	Alexander, Porter	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	none	Motion carried

## Reports

### **The required Comprehensive School Safety Plans (CSSP) per California Education Code Sections 32280-32288 have been updated to meet compliance requirements and are submitted for review.**

Mr. Kahn presented the Comprehensive School Safety Plans for Board review and apologized for the absence of the Middle College High School plan. He provided printed copies to Board and audience.

#### Public Comments

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

## Communications

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

Lisa Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, requested the Board reflect on their role and commitment to the community.

### **Comments from the Board**

Mrs. Macfarlane spoke about the Wellness Community meeting held on February 15 at the Nutrition Services Department.

Mr. Porter congratulated Dr. Allen Dosty for being appointed the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel. He stated that he appreciated Ms. Wilkins comments on reflection. Mr. Porter spoke about the special education teacher vacancies and questioned the transparency of the Board and staff. He spoke about the Review Board for Excellence in Teaching program.

Mr. Stroh spoke about attending the Etiquette Lunch held by Joe Serna Jr. Charter School.

Mr. Knackstedt commented about hands-on education and what a positive impact it makes on students.

Mr. Nava stated he has a passion for education and is proud to be a member of the Lodi Unified School District.

### **Comments from the Superintendent**

Mr. Young had no further comments.

## Board Member Advisory Reports

Mr. Knackstedt stated he attended the Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee Meeting on February 8, 2023. He stated the District should expect a reduced revenue over the next three years and to not make any large commitments until after the May Revise.

## Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.