



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**
September 17, 2024
Closed Session 6:00 p.m. / Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.



Video
Recording

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

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. David Horton, Associate Superintendent; Mrs. Edith Holbert, Executive Director, Operations; and Mrs. April Juarez, Executive Director, Fiscal Services

Student Representatives: Ms. Katelyn Gauna, Lodi High School, and Mr. Raphael Aseron, Ronald McNair High School

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 received prior to the Board adjourning to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Board Member Alexander led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

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

Placement of Non-Public School Students (Changes)

Mr. Nava motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of non-public school student changes number 28.

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

Dr. Bal motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to reject claim #643426.

Mr. Porter motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to reject claim #643243.

Comments from Student Representatives

Mr. Raphael Aseron, Ronald McNair High School, and Ms. Katelyn Gauna, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Young acknowledged the recent social media threats across the nation, county, and Lodi USD schools. He stated that all safety concerns are taken very seriously and investigated alongside with local law enforcement. Mr. Young requested parents, students, and community members, to report concerns, and not repost them. He spoke about visiting school sites and that fall break is just around the corner.

Comments from Employee Representatives

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke about the social media threats tearing the community apart. She voiced her concern about students attacking teachers in the classroom.

Lisa Cranford, President, Lodi USD Administrators Association (LUSDAA), introduced herself and a few other LUSDAA members to the Board.

Comments from the Public

Susan Hok, Library Media Assistant, stated that the library media assistants are still working out of classification and would like their job description reviewed.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, LEA, commented on Item A-3. She questioned the certificated salaries available balance on page two, asking if the balance is from the unfilled positions.

Mrs. Juarez confirmed that the \$21,956,518.74 balance is from unfilled positions.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

- Item A-1 Contracts List (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-2 Warrant Report (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-3 Changes to the Adopted Budget (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-4 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCAA) (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-5 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-6 Lodi Education Association (LEA) Re-opens for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-7 Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group (LUSG) Re-opens for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-8 Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-opens with California School Employees Association (CSEA) for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-9 Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-opens with Lodi Education Association (LEA) for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-10 Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-opens with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA) for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-11 Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-opens with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group (LUSG) for the 2024-25 Year (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-12 Resolution 2024-103 Notice of Completion for Millswood Portable Relocation Project No. 0855-8155 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-13 Resolution 2024-104 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Tokay High School Pool Renovation Project No. 0825-8425-600-10 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-14 Resolution 2024-105 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Julia Morgan Elementary School Re-Roofing, Project No. 0825-8425-190-11 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-15 Resolution 2024-106 Authorizing Filing of the Notice of Completion for the Woodbridge Elementary School Re-Roofing - Project No. 3213-4416-4 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-16 Resolution 2024-107 Finding that Board Member Sherry Alexander was Absent from the Regular Board Meeting of August 20, 2024 Due to Illness (Mr. Young)
- Item A-17 Woodbridge Elementary School Re-Roofing Project 3213-4416-4 Deductive Change Order 1 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-18 Revision to Board Policy 5020 Parents Rights and Responsibilities (Dr. Horton)
- Item A-19 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 3, 2024 (Mr. Young)

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

Student Representatives voted 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 # 24/25-7-02

Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-11-03

Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-10-04

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

Reports

LEGO Education in the Classroom

Dr. Horton introduced Elizabeth Wright, STEAM Instructional Coach, and Jennifer Tillet, Program Coordinator. They handed out LEGO building challenge samples to Board, staff, and the audience to participate in a sample classroom lesson.

Mr. Nava asked about making it available to more elementary schools.

Ms. Alexander thanked staff for the presentation.

No public comments were received.

Student Smartphone Use Update

Mark Dawson and Peter Lambert, Area Directors, introduced Erin Lenzi, Principal, and Brock Kaiser, Teacher, from Millswood Middle School. Mrs. Lenzi spoke about the implementation of the Millswood Middle School No Disruptive Devices Policy. Mr. Kaiser commented on the positive impact in the classroom after cell phones were removed and how it created a distraction-free, safe learning environment. Mr. Dawson presented the community survey results. Mr. Lambert spoke about the existing Board Policy and Rule 5131 - Conduct, which outlines having disruptive devices off in class.

Discussion ensued.

Board strongly agrees that cell phones are disruptive and would like Policy 5131 to be reviewed and revised to be consistently enforced across the district so that cell phones are off and put away during school time.

Public Comments

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, LEA

Proposed Revisions to Board Policies and Rules: BP 4000 Concepts and Roles in Personnel; BP 4015 Injury and Illness Prevention Program; BP 4015.2 Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens; BP 4111.2 4211.2 4311.2 Legal Status Requirement; Rule 4119.11 4219.11 4319.11 Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment; Rule 4119.12 Sex Discrimination and Sex-based Harassment Complaint

**Procedures; BP and Rule 4127 Temporary Athletic Team Coaches; Rule 4143.1 4243.1 Public Notice-
Personnel Negotiations; BP and Rule 4158 Employee Security**

Erin Church, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented proposed policies and rule revisions to Board for review.

Ms. Alexander asked about Board Rule 4119.12. She requested the yellow highlighted spaces from pages 5 and 9 have precise language.

Mrs. Church agreed and will insert the phrase "reasonably prompt timeframe" in the highlighted areas of the rule.

Public Comments

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, LEA

Board Member Advisory Reports

Dr. Bal and Mrs. Macfarlane spoke about attending the Lodi USD/Stockton 2x2 Committee on September 16. They stated the meeting covered traffic safety at the Stockton school sites and the library in front of McNair High School, which is still a year out from being completed. The committee is scheduled to meet again in January.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Knackstedt commented on the uptick of nationwide school emergencies and expressed interest in the idea of badge alert buttons for staff.

Ms. Alexander wished everyone a relaxing fall break.

Mr. Nava announced that it is Spanish Heritage Month and would like zero tolerance for violence towards staff.

Mr. Porter spoke about helping students who are struggling at the end of the first quarter and expressed his excitement for the LEGO presentation, hoping to see more on student achievement.

Mr. Stroh spoke about visiting Needham West School and Nutrition Services. He commented on Stolen Focus, a book that examines factors that impact our focus such as phone usage in schools.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board