



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 18, 2017

Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Ron Heberle, President; Dr. Daryl Talken, Clerk; Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Mr. Ron Freitas; and Mr. Gary Knackstedt; and Mr. Nava

Board Member Absent: Mr. George Neely, Vice-President (*Note: Mr. Neely was present for the Closed Session portion of the meeting*)

Administrative Staff: Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO; and Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel

Student Representative: Ms. Farrahlynn Bonocan, Bear Creek High School and Ms. Jennica Casciaro, Tokay High School

Meeting Recorder: Ms. Lynn Aebi, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

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.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No public comments were presented prior to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:05 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Heberle led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Heberle reported on the following action taken in Closed Session:

- **Non-Public School Students** – Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of Non-Public School Students 2016-17 #s 91, 92, 93 and 94.
- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**
Mr. Nava motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Julie Jensen as Principal, Adult School/Career Technical Education, effective date to be determined.

- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**

Mr. Freitas motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Edith Holbert as Director III, Information Services, effective date April 19, 2017.

Recognitions

Recognition of Staff and Students Certified in Level 1 Rocketry

The rocketry program, affiliation with the National Association of Rocketry and details of District students' working experiments aboard the space station were highlighted. Students and staffs who have achieved Level 1 Rocketry certification were acknowledged and congratulated.

Science Olympiad Teams From LUSD Schools at the Elementary, Middle, and High School Levels Will Be Recognized

The Elkhorn elementary division 2nd place Blue Team and 1st place Gold Team along with the Elkhorn middle division 3rd place Blue Team and 2nd place Gold Team were acknowledged. The Lodi Middle School Blue Team finished 5th at the county level and continued on to finish 12th place in state-wide competition. The Tokay High School Purple Team, who took 1st place in the county and finished 10th place in state-wide competition was recognized.

Superintendent and Staff Member Reports

Dr. Washer thanked Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, and the entire Personnel Department team for a successful teacher job fair. She noted that Food Services provided refreshments for the almost 70 candidates that attended. She thanked the administrators that conducted interviews with the candidates. Dr. Washer issued a reminder that it is time for state testing, which adds an element of stress and anxiety for students; she asked that parents do what they can to have students get a good night's sleep and breakfast.

Comments From The Public

Cole Hudson, Teacher, Podesta Ranch School, read a statement regarding the accomplishments of Leland Stanford and made comments related to teacher negotiations.

Terry Roberts, Teacher, Lawrence Elementary School, spoke regarding the current state of negotiations and advertising for new teachers.

Elizabeth Ing, Teacher, Lodi High School, spoke regarding being a coach for Science Olympiad and rocketry. She compared teacher salaries of various districts.

Karen Minnick, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, thanked BCHS students and Superintendent Washer for donations. She spoke regarding negotiations and the need for an increase in salary.

Chris Funge, Teacher, Larson Elementary School, asked that the Board prove that they honor teachers with their actions.

Martha Snider, Teacher, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, spoke of the contributions she personally makes to benefit the teaching profession. #isupportlodiunifiedschooldistrictstudents.

Jamie Hillis, Teacher, Millswood Middle School, spoke regarding her dissatisfaction with the current proposal regarding teacher negotiations.

Lisa Wilkins, Teacher, Morada Middle School, related her view of performance expectations for teachers in the concept plan presented to them.

Dawn Tegen, Teacher, Lockeford Elementary School, spoke regarding a fair contract for teachers.

Susanne Reed, Teacher, Wagner Holt Elementary School, related her view of current contract negotiations between the District and teachers, and the need for a settlement.

Rebecca Ray, Community Business Manager, Barnes and Noble, spoke regarding the Barnes and Noble "My Favorite Teacher" award and noted this is the second year that a Lodi USD teacher has been the recipient of the award. She congratulated Toni Dahlen, Teacher, Lincoln Technical Academy as this year's winner. She spoke regarding the Barnes and Noble Summer Reading program for students and added that additional information regarding the program could be found on their website.

Anne Swehla-Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, spoke regarding teacher interns and spoke in support of a fair contract settlement for teachers.

Dave Hurley, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary School, spoke on the District's inability to recruit and retain good teachers.

Claudia Mennuti, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, spoke on the need for Lodi teachers to earn a living wage.

Elizabeth Wright, Teacher, Lois Borchardt Elementary School, spoke as a parent and explained she is terrified that her children might have bad teachers if the current situation is not remedied.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Ms. Cassel asked to removed Consent Agenda A Items A-3 and A-4 for the purpose of abstaining.

Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget

Item A-2 Warrant Report

Item A-5 Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Knackstedt seconded and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda A, as amended, as follows:

Ayes: Cassel; Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken

No: None

Absent: Neely

Abstain: None

Motion carried

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-3 Resolution 2017-32 Finding That Board Member Bonnie Cassel Was Absent From the April 4, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Due to Illness

Mr. Freitas motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted to approve Item A-3 Resolution 2017-32 Finding That Board Member Bonnie Cassel Was Absent From the April 4, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Due to Illness, as follows:

Ayes: Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken
No: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: Cassel Motion carried

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-4 Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 4, 2017

Mr. Freitas motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted to approve Item A-4 Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 4, 2017, as follows:

Ayes: Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken
No: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: Cassel Motion carried

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Suspended Expulsion: (Item B-1) Student #16/17-9-56
Suspended Expulsion: (Item B-2) Student #16/17-11-57
Suspended Expulsion: (Item B-3) Student #16/17-9-58

Mr. Nava motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases, as presented.

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Motion to Rescind Board Action on March 21, 2017 to Appoint the Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee

Ms. Cassel explained that on March 21, 2017, she participated via teleconference from a remote location and it was not apparent to her when she voted that the list of candidates had been shortened. She explained that when she voted in the affirmative, she thought she was voting for eight names and later learned it was only seven. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Cassel motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted on Item OAI-1 Motion to Rescind Board Action on March 21, 2017 to Appoint the Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee, as follows:

Ayes: Cassel; Nava; and Freitas
No: Heberle; Knackstedt; and Talken
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None Motion failed

Mr. Nava expressed his concerns that there was a subcommittee of three Board Members and a consensus to bring forward eight candidates, which was not supported by some Board Members. Mr. Nava noted when he has been on a subcommittee in the past and that body made a decision he would have never voted against it.

Mr. Heberle stated he understood Mr. Nava's concerns; however, it is the decision of the full Board.

Public Comments
None

Item OAI-2 Motion to Appoint the Measure U Citizens' Oversight Committee

Note: This item not acted upon due to the failure of Item OAI-1.

Item OAI-3 Resolution 2017-31 Board of Education of the Lodi Unified School District Prescribing the Terms and Authorizing the Issuance of the Election, Series 2017 Bonds

Mr. Hern presented Resolution 2017-31 to the Board for their consideration. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-3 Resolution 2017-31 Board of Education of the Lodi Unified School District Prescribing the Terms and Authorizing the Issuance of the Election, Series 2017 Bonds, as follows:

Ayes:	Cassel; Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken
No:	None
Absent:	Neely
Abstain:	None

Motion carried

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

Public Comments
None

Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association

Mr. McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the contractual agreement between the District and Lodi Pupil Personnel Association.

Mr. Knackstedt motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association, as follows:

Ayes:	Cassel; Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken
No:	None
Absent:	Neely
Abstain:	None

Motion carried

Public Comments
None

Personnel Matters

Mike McKilligan presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted to approve Personnel Matters, as presented, as follows:

Ayes:	Cassel; Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Nava; and Talken
No:	None
Absent:	Neely
Abstain:	None

Motion carried

Comments

Comments from Student Representatives

Farrahlynn Bonocan, Bear Creek High School and Jennica Casciaro, Tokay High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

Comments from Employee Groups

John Hunt, President, Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA), spoke on the contractual agreement between the District and LPPA, noting there was no movement on the salary percentage offered; however, there was movement in the other areas beneficial to the LPPA unit. He stated the group was able to agree to a very good MOU for the psychologists, commitment to the unit with a handbook, and extra workday minutes. He offered support to the other two unions and thanked the District for negotiations.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke about respect for teachers and recruitment efforts of other districts. Ms. Orgon stated the two percent being offered by the District barely covers insurance cost increases. She stated the percentages offered for teachers doing more work on the proposal does not add a significant amount and this would only effect some members, not a sign of respect to the entire membership. Ms. Orgon lobbied for a salary and benefit increase for the 1,472 teachers in the LEA unit.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Knackstedt was invited to attend the Lodi High School Walk of Flame dedication and attended the Lodi High School track meet. At the track meet he described kids having fun and taking part in impromptu races and teachers volunteering their time. Mr. Knackstedt dropped by the Math Olympiad competition at Tokay High School, where he again noted engaged students and teachers volunteering their time.

Mr. Heberle also attended the track meet at Lodi High School and agreed with Mr. Knackstedt that stands for seating are needed. He went to Tokay High School to hand out awards to students and is preparing to attend the many recognitions that will be hosted by various schools during this time of year. At these events, he too, viewed many teachers volunteering their time.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer reported that the question as to the outcome of a tied motion, as in Other Action Items, Item OAI-1, is that a tied motion fails.

Reports

Proposed Suspension of Katnich Program

Dawn Vetica, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education; Jonathan Martin, Administrative Director, Special Services/SELPA and Paul Warren, Coordinator, Special Education, presented a report to Board relative to the current status of the Katnich Community Day School Program. Mr. Martin explained the declining enrollment in the program and the costs associated with continuing the program. Mr. Warren highlighted an alternative plan to better utilize these funds.

Mr. Nava agreed that the expenditure of \$500,000 on six students calls for an alternative plan to use these funds in other areas. Mr. Freitas asked why the enrollment was on the decline. Ms. Vetica explained the declining enrollment is a direct result of the success of District intervention programs; less students are being expelled from Special Day Classes. Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Maintenance & Operations – Construction Project Specialists

Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO and Mitch Slater, Director of Maintenance & Operations, presented the report in support of adding two construction project specialists to the Maintenance & Operations Department at a cost of \$162,000 per year. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Freitas spoke in support of the addition of the positions, as the reserve can only be used for this purpose.

Public Comments

None

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No committee reports were received.


Future Agenda Items

No agenda items were received.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board

